

Dukakis, Jackson teams clash over taxes

MACKINAC ISLAND (R) — Democratic presidential candidate Michael Dukakis' forces clashed with supporters of Jesse Jackson Saturday over whether a party platform should propose higher taxes. Both men's representatives on the platform-writing committee offered sharply different demands on the issue, one of the most controversial points separating the two. Jackson's forces want higher taxes on the rich and corporations to help fund increased social spending, but Dukakis opposes any increased taxes except as a last resort. A call by Democratic presidential candidate Walter Mondale in 1984 for higher taxes helped pave the way for his defeat. The issue was not settled immediately, as both sides expressed hope a compromise could be worked out in a private drafting session this weekend. It was the first major dispute between the two forces in two days of discussion of Democratic policy statements that Dukakis, who clinched his party's nomination last Tuesday, could run on against Vice-President George Bush, the certain Republican nominee, in the November election.

Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published by the Jordan Press Foundation
جوردان تايمز يومية سياسية مستقلة عن المؤسسة الصحفية الأردنية. الراي.

Iranians set ablaze British tanker

BAHRAIN (AP) — Iranian gunboats attacked and set ablaze a British-flagged tanker off the Saudi Arabian coast Saturday, four hours after other Iranian sea raiders struck at a West German freighter in the Strait of Hormuz. Gulf-based shipping executives reported. The tanker, identified as the 258,979-ton Esso Demetia, was set ablaze at 6:05 p.m. (1505 GMT) southeast of the Saudi oil port of Ras Tanura, said the shipping executives. They said two Iranian gunboats carried out the attack, the first in a number of months in the northern sector of the Gulf. The attack left the vessel ablaze, but it was not known if there were any casualties, they said. About 2 p.m. (1100 GMT), two other gunboats struck some 500 kilometers south in the Hormuz, attacking the German freighter with machine guns and rocket-propelled grenades, killing one seaman (see page 5). Salvage tugs were racing to the Esso Demetia's aid and three Bahraini coastguard vessels were on standby several miles away. The supertanker was attacked in a busy shipping channel five miles southeast of the main approach route to Ras Tanura. "The attack was on Saudi Arabia's back doorstep," one source said.

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Regent sends good wishes to Philippines

AMMAN (Petra) — His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, the Regent, Saturday sent a cable of good wishes to Philippine President Corason Aquino on her country's Independence Day. The Regent wished the president continued health and happiness and the Philippine people further progress and prosperity.

Haj Hassan, Arab maritime official discuss cooperation

AMMAN (Petra) — Minister of Transport and Telecommunications Khaled Al Haj Hassan conferred in his office Saturday with South Yemeni ports corporation Director-General Said Al Yafi'i. Yafi'i, who is also an expert working for the international maritime training organization, is heading a delegation from the organization on a tour of Arab states to assess their maritime services at their respective ports. Yafi'i briefed the minister on the organization's role in training qualified Arab personnel for operating sea ports in the Arab World.

Military court begins trial of murder suspects

AMMAN (Petra) — The military court in Amman has started the trial of a four-member group which is accused of a series of murders and armed robberies between November 1987 and March this year. An official statement said that the group's trial was being held behind closed doors, but an open session will be held Monday. The four-member group is accused of murdering: Ayoub Ismail Kiswani, Salah Khatil Abdul Khaleq and Omar Mohammad Ali Al Mansar in the course of committing their robberies. According to Public Security Department (PSD) Director-General Abdul Hadi Al Majali, the victims were all drivers of vehicles which the group had planned to use in their attack on a military bus. They eventually carried out the attack on the military vehicle and stole JD 19,000.

Ramadan receives Turkish message

BAGHDAD (AP) — Visiting Turkish Foreign Ministry Under-Secretary Nuzhet Kandemir delivered a letter Saturday from Prime Minister Turgut Ozal to Iraq's First Premier Taha Yassin Ramadan on bilateral relations and the Gulf war, Baghdad Radio reported. Relations between Iraq and Turkey have been strained since April when Turkey suspended all credits to Iraq as Iraq failed to pay an outstanding debt of more than \$2.5 billion covering purchases of goods and facilities from Turkey.

Bangladesh braces for protests

DHAKA (AP) — The government Saturday tightened security in the capital and other cities, gearing for a nationwide strike to protest passage of a law making Islam the state religion of Bangladesh. Opponents of the law led evening torchlight processions through the streets of Dhaka to promote Sunday's general strike. Riot police followed several small parades in trucks but did not interfere. Three major opposition political alliances and the Muslim fundamentalist Jamaat-e-Islami have called the eight-hour general strike beginning at 6 a.m. (0000 GMT) Sunday.

U.S. Senate approves drug-crime death penalty

WASHINGTON (R) — The Senate voted 65-29 Friday to impose the death penalty for drug-related killings. But the measure, denounced during the debate by one senator as inspired by "election frenzy," faced an uncertain future in the house. Its sponsor, Republican Senator Alfonse D'Amato of New York, acknowledged it might be difficult to bring the measure to a vote in the house because of opposition there.

Palestinians stage strike in solidarity with detainees

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (Agencies) — Palestinians held protests Saturday in solidarity with Palestinians detained in the Israeli-occupied territories.

The protests came in response to calls for a "day of action" issued by the clandestine leadership of the six-month-old Palestinian uprising in the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

Police said they suspected Palestinians started a forest fire in the Bar Giora area, south of Jerusalem, which caused heavy damage.

Arab sources reported that in the West Bank town of Ramallah, women staged a sit-in strike at the International Red Cross office to protest against the treatment of Palestinian detainees.

Soldiers have arrested thousands of Palestinian protesters since the start of the uprising Dec. 9. At least 213 Palestinians have died in the violence.

The sources said soldiers fired tear-gas and rubber bullets to

disperse female students who threw stones at military police outside their school. Two girls were injured — one in the back and one in the head — from the rubber bullets, they added.

Soldiers also clashed with Palestinian protesters in Bethlehem, but there were no reports of injuries, witnesses told Reuters.

In Nablus, the West Bank's largest city, soldiers carried out house-to-house searches at midnight Friday and ordered some 100 male residents out on the street, where they were beaten on their backs, legs and heads for two hours, Arab sources reported.

They said 16 people were taken to hospital and 26 were treated by medical workers called to the scene.

In the West Bank village of Beita, troops expelled about 100 Israelis who were planting olive trees to protest the army's uprooting of orchards and demolition of 14 Arab houses.

The army measures were in reprisal for an April 6 clash between villagers and Israeli settlers in which two Palestinians and a 15-year-old Jewish girl were killed.

The Israeli army has ordered a speedup in the appeals process for Palestinians held without charge in a move that Israeli officials said would benefit detainees by increasing judicial supervision.

But Palestinian lawyer Jonathan Kuttub Saturday called the move a "charade," saying Israeli Defence Minister Yitzhak Rabin ordered the changes Friday after all detainees decided last week to challenge the system by filing appeals.

About 2,000 Arabs have been

(Continued on page 5)

Fateh clashes rage in Beirut

BEIRUT (AP) — Palestinian fighters loyal to Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) Chairman Yasser Arafat and Syrian-backed dissidents, battled with mortars and rockets Saturday at two devastated refugee camps in west Beirut. Police said nine people were killed and 35 wounded.

That topped the casualties to 19 dead and 95 wounded since the new round of inter-Palestinian clashes broke out in Shatila and nearby Bourj Al Barajneh camps last Wednesday.

The fighting, which raged into the afternoon Saturday, pitted Arafat's mainline Fateh against the Syrian-supported breakaway Fateh-uprising faction of Saeed Musa.

Shell blasts and staccato bursts of gunfire shook Beirut as Palestinian antagonists in the city hammered each other's positions with 82-mm mortars, 106-mm recoilless cannons, rocket-propelled grenades and heavy guns.

They said Musa's gunners, stationed in Syrian-controlled hills in Lebanon's central mountains overlooking Beirut, pounded both camps with 155-mm howitzers and 130-mm and 160-mm

mortars.

About 50 Palestinian women who fled Shatila and Bourj Al Barajneh demonstrated Saturday at west Beirut's Mar Elias refugee camp, which has stayed neutral in the clashes, and called on Palestinian leadership to intervene to stop the fighting.

"What a shame. A Palestinian beats a Palestinian with fire," chanted the demonstrators as they reached the office of Fateh-Uprising.

The heavy clashes continued during the day despite several ceasefire calls by a security committee made up of representatives of various Palestinian groups.

The latest truce reached at noon (0900 GMT) eased the

fighting, but tension was still reported high.

Police said the big guns fell silent, but sporadic exchanges of rocket-propelled grenades and machine guns continued after the ceasefire.

Palestinian officials said 95 per cent of Shatila and Bourj Al Barajneh's 29,000 population have fled the camps to live in makeshift homes in basements of unfinished apartment buildings in Beirut or with relatives. Others took refuge in shantytowns in south and north Lebanon.

A statement signed "Who is left from Shatila's residents" appealed to the PLO leaders as well as Musa, better known as Abu Musa, to exert all their efforts to stop the bloodshed.

Reagan rejects Senate condition to INF pact

WASHINGTON (R) — President Ronald Reagan has rejected a condition attached to the intermediate-range nuclear forces (INF) treaty by the U.S. Senate but said the dispute would not affect the pact's implementation.

The Senate approved the treaty May 27 after voting 72-27 to add to the ratification resolution a condition designed to hold this and future administrations to the treaty's terms as now understood by the Senate and the administration.

The condition would require an administration to seek Senate approval of any change in the interpretation of the treaty.

The action was strongly opposed by the administration and stemmed from its controversial "broad" reading of the 1972 Anti-Ballistic Missile (ABM) treaty, which it narrowly interpreted would not allow "Star Wars" missile defence research.

Reagan, in statement to the Senate, said Friday: "I am compelled to state that I cannot accept the proposition that a condition in a resolution to ratification can alter the allocation of rights and duties under the constitution."

He said also that he could not accept any diminution of the president's powers claimed by the condition and noted that the supreme court might well have the final judgement on the issue.

At the same time Reagan assured the Senate he had no intention of changing the interpretation of the treaty and said he did not believe the dispute would have any practical effect on its implementation.

He said he believed the administration and the Senate would handle any questions of interpretation "in a spirit of mutual accommodation and respect."

Zulu leader appeals to Pretoria to free Mandela

JOHANNESBURG (R) — Zulu leader Mangosuthu Buthelezi pleaded with the South African government Saturday to free jailed African National Congress (ANC) leader Nelson Mandela before his 70th birthday next month.

"Black South Africa will not rest until he is free," Buthelezi, hereditary political leader of six million Zulus, told a prayer rally of thousands of mainly youthful followers.

The Zulu leader is seen by President P.W. Botha's government as a key figure in any gradual reform of apartheid and evolution from white-led rule to broader based political structures.

But Buthelezi warned: "Nothing the South African government can do will gain it any credibility while it treats Dr. Mandela as a dangerous enemy of the people."

The rally near the Indian Ocean city of Durban coincided with an all-day rock concert in honour of Mandela at London's Wembley Stadium. The concert was being televised by the British Broadcasting Corporation, which has brought strong protests from Pretoria (see page 8).

Buthelezi said Botha had told him in 1984 that he felt conscience-stricken about keeping an ageing man like Mandela in prison.



REGENT CONFERS WITH AUSTRALIAN TEAM: His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, the Regent, Saturday meets with an Australian parliamentary delegation currently touring the region on a fact-finding mission. The Regent reviewed all aspects of the Arab-Israeli conflict and called for a quick solution based on elimination of

Israel's occupation of Arab territories, and just and durable peace in the region. He called for reaching solutions to all regional problems, foremost of which is the Iran-Iraq war. He also discussed Jordanian-Australian relations. Earlier, the Australian visitors held talks with the speakers of the Jordanian Parliament (see page 3)

Jordan appeals to ILO over Palestinian workers

GENEVA (Petra) — Jordan Saturday appealed to the International Labour Organisation (ILO) and ILO member states to support a draft resolution on the protection of freedom of workers and employers in the Israeli-occupied Arab territories.

"Lifting the sufferings and injustice from the Palestinian people under Israeli rule can be achieved by ending Israeli occupation and by forcing Israel to succumb to the will of the international community and U.N. Security Council resolutions, which recognise the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people in their homeland," Minister of Labour and Social Development Rashid Ureikat told the ILO's 75th session.

Ureikat said the session coincides with an upsurge in the current Arab revolt in the occu-

pled Palestinian land, which has been under the yoke of Israeli occupation for the past 20 years.

What is happening in these territories, he said, "is a real revolution triggered by Israel's repressive measures and inhuman practices over the years and the racist policies being exercised against the Arab workers and their unions."

He said this year's report by an ILO team on the general working and living conditions of Arab workers under Israeli rule clearly pointed to the Zionist state's policies aimed at seizing Arab lands for building settlements and colonies.

Ureikat voiced Jordan's deep concern over the unstable world conditions "which adversely affect the cause of peace and security."

The Geneva ILO conference,



Rashid Ureikat

he said, ought to take proper measures to contribute to ending the Iran-Iraq war, "which has sapped human and material resources and continues to threaten world peace and security."

The minister paid tribute to the ILO director general for his keenness on following up a study on the conditions of Arab workers in the occupied territories and lauded ILO-Jordan cooperation.

PLO said to get additional Arab aid

KUWAIT (AP) — Arab leaders have committed themselves to paying \$42 million each month to the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO), the Kuwaiti newspaper Al Rai Al Aam reported Saturday.

The decision, adopted at the just-concluded Algiers Arab summit conference, was additional to the circulated figure of \$118 million in annual support for the Palestinian uprising in the Israeli-occupied territories, according to the paper.

The paper's editor Hamad Jasssem Al Saeed also quoted unidentified, highly-placed sources in Algiers as saying that Arab League Secretary-General Chadi Klibi had fired nine league personnel for referring, in the draft final communique, to financial aid for the "front line states."

He said that mention of financial aid to the Arab states in direct confrontation with Israel was in a paragraph not included by the foreign ministers when they first drafted the communique.

"Arab leaders, particularly those of the Gulf Cooperation Council, were surprised to read that paragraph, which was deleted after consulting with Klibi," the editor quoted a source as saying.

Klibi ordered an immediate investigation with appropriate personnel and decided to fire nine of them as a result.

(Continued on page 5)

Maghreb takes first step towards regional bloc

ALGIERS (Agencies) — Five North African states, holding their first summit in their history, have taken the first step towards creating a regional grouping.

A brief communique issued at the end of a meeting Friday of leaders of Algeria, Libya, Morocco, Mauritania and Tunisia said they had agreed to set up a committee charged with examining ways of achieving greater unity in the Maghreb.

The committee is to hold its first meeting in the Algerian capital June 13.

The unprecedented meeting at Algerian President Chadli Ben-

jedid's residence at Zeralda, outside Algiers, was also attended by King Fahd of Saudi Arabia.

King Fahd has played a central role in reconciling Morocco and Algeria which restored diplomatic relations on May 16 after a rupture of 12 years over the Western Sahara conflict.

Journalists were invited to the residence, where the leaders chatted briefly before going in to luncheon.

The leaders at the meeting were Tunisia's President Zine Al Abidine Ibn Ali, Mauritanian President Maaouya Ould Taya, Libyan leader Muammar Qadhafi, King Hassan II of Morocco and

Algerian President Chadli Benjedid.

All the leaders at the luncheon took part in the three-day Arab summit meeting earlier in the week which reinforced Arab endorsement of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) and promised financial support for the uprising in the Israeli-occupied territories.

Qadhafi long has advocated Arab unity in almost any form. In the 19 years since he seized power in Libya, he has tried and failed to merge his country with all his neighbours and with some Arab states far from Libya's borders.

He proposed a total merger of the Maghreb armed forces, a

delegation source said.

The source, insisting on anonymity, told the AP Qadhafi told the five chiefs of state the unity of the Maghreb states would be a "point of transition towards the total Arab unity to which we should all aspire."

At the Maghreb level, he said, it should begin with the unification of the region's armed forces, followed by the "economic, social and political integration" of the five countries.

(Continued on page 5)

Khomeini in good health, minister says

VIENNA (R) — Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini is in good health, his country's oil minister said Saturday when asked about a U.S. television report that Iran's spiritual leader might die of cancer in two or three months.

"He is more strong than me as you hear me now," Gholamreza Aqazadeh told reporters covering a meeting in Vienna of the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC).

CBS Television News in the United States quoted intelligence reports Thursday as saying cancer had spread from Khomeini's prostate to his liver and that a government transition had begun.

Aqazadeh made no further comment about the health of the veteran cleric, who is aged 85 according to his official biography.

The minister later told Reuters through an interpreter he had seen Khomeini a few days ago and he was in good health.

Asked about the CBS report, Aqazadeh said the ayatollah was "more healthy and strong than I am."

The State Department said Thursday it had no information to confirm the CBS report.

"There have been stories like this for years. We really don't know. We haven't anything on it," said a State Department official. "But one of these days, they are bound to be true."

Islamabad denies Kabul's charges

ISLAMABAD (AP) — The government Saturday denied allegations by the Soviet-backed government of Afghanistan that Pakistan is violating the Geneva accords by aiding anti-communist rebels.

Islamabad also accused Afghanistan of violating Pakistani air space and territory.

"The allegations made by the Kabul side were rejected and a point-by-point reply has been handed over to the United Nations," a Foreign Ministry spokesman said.

The official, who cannot be identified according to government rules, said the reply was delivered to the United Nations Good Offices Mission for Afghanistan and Pakistan (Ungomap).

Major-General Rauli Helminen of Finland heads the mission, which reports to U.N. Under-Secretary General Diego Cordovez.

Cordovez brokered the Geneva accords paving the way for the withdrawal of Soviet troops from Afghanistan. The pullout began May 15.

Pakistan, Afghanistan, the United States and the Soviet Union signed the accords in Geneva April 14.

Ungomap has offices in Islamabad and Kabul. The officials also undertake onsite inspections when they receive complaints of violations from either side.

The Foreign Ministry official said: "We have emphasised in our note to Ungomap that Pakistan cannot be held responsible for developments inside Afghanistan, resulting from Mujahideen actions against Kabul administration."

The note pointed out that "Pakistan is also not expected to prohibit the legitimate political activity of the Afghan refugees who represent a substantial seg-

ment of the Afghan population," he said.

Nearly three million Afghan refugees fled to Pakistan following the Soviet military intervention in Afghanistan in 1979. Most stayed in Pakistan because of the continued fighting in their homeland.

The spokesman said that "consistent with Pakistan's commitment to faithfully implement the Geneva accord, onsite inspections and visits by Ungomap teams have already taken place to specific locations along the Pakistan-Afghanistan border" near Parachinar area in response to a request made by the U.N. officials. Parachinar is about 290 kilometres west of Islamabad.

The Ungomap officials also have visited several other villages in the Parachinar area and Torkham border point north of Parachinar.

Police break up Moscow demonstration

MOSCOW (R) — Plainclothes men dragged off about a dozen young protesters as Soviet police with loud-hailers broke up a demonstration in central Moscow Saturday.

The protesters, some of whom were caught up, were herded into a waiting bus and driven away after demonstrating for five minutes on Pushkin Square to demand the release of political activist Valera Novodvorsky.

The demonstrators, brandishing posters reading "Long live Freedom" and "Down with Tyranny," were members of the Democratic Union, an opposition

group set up last month with the aim of becoming an alternative to the ruling Communist Party.

A crowd of about 100 bystanders had formed around the small group of demonstrators when police moved in, shouting that the protest had not been authorised by Moscow City authorities.

"What are they violating?" an elderly woman shouted.

Bystanders harangued the police as the protesters, using the Western tactic of passive resistance, were dragged away.

Before the demonstration, another group had asked passers-by to sign a petition calling on the

authorities to erect a memorial to victims of the repressions of dictator Josef Stalin. They said they had collected 21,000 signatures since November.

Members of the Democratic Union handed out leaflets protesting against Novodvorsky's pre-dawn arrest Friday, just a few hours after state television had shown a programme criticising the group's activities.

The demonstrations come against a backdrop of heated discussion ahead of a major party conference this month which could pave the way for wide-scale political and legal reform.

Our children: Stable, alert, cooperative



Are our children more psychologically fit than those in the West?

By Sana Atiyeh
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — Children in Jordan might be psychologically healthier compared to children in the West, according to a Swedish expert working with children in Jordan.

Based on her observations of Swedish and Jordanian children, Lena Nordenmark, a child psychologist, believes that though Swedish parents are more aware of their children's psychological needs, children there are more "confused, uncooperative and bored." She adds that she finds children here to be more alert and cooperative.

Nordenmark, who works at the Institute of Child Health and Development of the Swedish Save the Children (Radda Barnen), declined to say whose psychological situation is better. "Their situation is just different," she told the Jordan Times.

The psychologist, however, was ambiguous in her comparison of children. She said, for example, that although children here naturally take good care of their little brothers and sisters, "I feel that they're still babies themselves."

Nordenmark, who also works with children at two refugee camps with UNRWA in Amman, said that the stimulation they receive here is different than that in Sweden. She said that in her country, they get stimulation through the toys the parents buy them and from schools. But here, she finds that children receive plenty of natural stimulation

through contact with other people and with family members, which are normally large.

Saudi thinks different

This is contrary to what Dr. Fathieh Sa'udi pediatrician at the Swedish Institute, believes. She finds that children here receive very little stimulation from parents, thus slowing down their intellectual development. Sa'udi thinks that this is due to the lack of child spacing. "The first child is just a baby himself when another baby comes along. The first one feels neglected by the mother and more time is given to the younger one," she said.

In an interview with the Jordan Times, Sa'udi said that because the education system in Jordan is based on memorisation rather than analyses and most schools do not offer stimulation, parents should not depend on schools to motivate their children. Instead, parents should stimulate their pre-school children by teaching them to analyse in order to understand things.

"Most children are underestimated and seen as people who do not understand logic. But they are naturally intelligent and their questions should be answered by parents. They receive a lot of no's without explanations, and this slows down their intellectual development if they are not taught why not, for example," she explained.

On the other hand, Nordenmark said that in Sweden it is the

extreme opposite: Children are overstimulated and everything, necessary and unnecessary, is explained to them.

"We explain too much instead of being emotional, and this confuses the child. Swedish parents are so aware of the stimulation the child needs and they try so hard that they feel anxious and guilty if they feel they are not giving enough. Here, they are more natural and emotional with their children, and siblings deal a lot with each other which is good. But it is true that their intellectual stimulation is very little," Nordenmark said.

Look out for jealousy

Another aspect that might slow down a child's physical or psychological development is jealousy according to the two doctors. Nordenmark, who worked in Sweden for 15 years and a year and half in Jordan, thought that large families would have less jealousies among brothers and sisters. "But I find that jealousy is very common between brothers and sisters in big families as well as small ones. And if it is not treated properly by parents, this could slow down their speech development, for example. But they still take such good care of each other, more than they do in Sweden," she compared.

According to a Swedish professor of child and youth psychiatry at the University of Göteborg who was recently in Amman, 60 per cent of all psychiatric problems in childhood in Sweden have social or psychological origins.

Prof. Christopher Gillberg said in an interview that among their major problems, mostly in urban areas, are drug and narcotics abuse, a high percentage of alcoholic parents, and divorces (among up to 60 per cent of couples after ten years of marriage).

When asked if child psychiatric problems were identical in the rest of the world, he said: "Partly, yes, because some of the main pathologies are similar wherever you go. For example, biological background factors are important for AUTISM (abnormal self-absorption characterised by lack of response to people and limited ability to communicate) and other childhood psychoses. But some other problems have more important social and cultural reasons like cases of anorexia nervosa (fear of becoming fat and refusing to eat) which is more common in the West than here."

Gillberg added that structures and opportunities should be created in this country to prevent such social and psychological problems as in the West.

Cooperation with Sweden

He said that Jordan should send staff for training in advanced fields in Sweden. "And Swedish specialists could come to Jordan to study your situation and to know your needs. Based on this, we can provide you with our experience adapted to your situation and we might also help you to avoid our mistakes," Prof. Gillberg suggested.

But in the meantime, how can parents be made aware of what they can do to prevent any drawbacks in children? Sa'udi believes that the media is the best way to reach and educate parents on how to deal with their children. She thinks that simple programmes and messages on child stimulation should be carried out on television as a form of educating parents.

Nordenmark thinks that parent group discussions and meetings are a good way to teach ways of bringing up children. "We hold open discussions with mothers twice a month at two refugee camps here, where up to fifteen women participate. The discussions are very open and mothers benefit a great deal from the meetings," she said.

The Institute of Child Health and Development, is a joint programme between Sweden and Jordan with the aim of developing new and adequate methods and techniques in preventive health care for pregnant mothers and pre-school children.

The institute, established in November 1986 in Sweileh, is composed of four units: The mother and child health care clinic (MCH), child development unit, epidemiological unit, and the administration.

The MCH unit is a model clinic for pregnant mothers and pre-school children, serving the eastern Sweileh population free of charge. (Patients only pay for medication). The clinic, which contains a well-equipped routine laboratory, is expected to become a model for other MCH's and a training school for MCH staff.

"We are trying to spread our system to other MCH's. We vaccinate mothers and children, and screen for early detection of any physical — such as vision and hearing — or psychological diseases so that the child is healthy when he starts school," Sa'udi said. She added that there are 1,037 registered people at the institute and up to 5,000 followed-up visits in a year.

The child development unit is where children with different types of physical, developmental and mental problems, as well as psychological and psychosomatic dysfunctions, are referred to assess more deeply their cases. There, counselling is given to parents, and children with minor handicaps can be treated here or in other specialised pre-school institutions.

The epidemiological unit is where data on children and pregnant mothers are computerised and analysed to give reliable background figures for future preventive action.

The institute's administration, on the other hand, cooperates with other Jordanian organisations working with prevention and handicaps, with Swedish and Jordanian universities, and in consultation with ministries of health and social development.

The institute was initially funded by the Swedish Save the Children, but the administrative and financial responsibility will successively be taken over by Noor Al Hussein Foundation, the Jordanian counterpart.



GRADUATION: His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, the Regent, Saturday attended the graduation of a new batch of International Baccalaureate School students. Her Highness Princess Sarvath, who patronised the ceremony, presented certificates to the graduates (Petra photo)

Qualified women needed to raise family standards — Princess Basma

AMMAN (Petra) — A regional seminar to assess needs of women in management and leadership opened in Amman Saturday under the patronage of Her Royal Highness Princess Basma.

The Princess, who is president of the Queen Alia Social Welfare Fund (QAF), addressed the opening session, stressing the need for qualified women to raise the standards of their families, "a process which is not the sole responsibility of governments."

She said that improving the status of women in society is the responsibility of all private and voluntary organisations which should work within a defined programme to involve women in the development and planning processes, "thus offering them the chance to serve on equal footing with men in these fields."

"Women in the Arab World continue to face numerous difficulties, and serious work should be done to help remove all obstacles in the way of their development," Princess Basma noted.

She said that the QAF, which is sponsoring the three-day seminar, had given ample consideration to Jordanian women's role in development and included women's programmes within its general plans.

Another speaker was Dr. Tayseer Abdul Jabbar, former minister of social development and labour, and present chairman of the board of directors of the Arab Consultancy and Research Centre.

Abdul Jabbar paid tribute to the QAF for its leading role in voluntary and social activities in Jordan.

He said Arab women's conditions improved over the past two decades and there has been an increasing participation by women in all public and private sectors.

He also paid tribute to Arab women's role in national endeavours to repel aggression on the Arab World especially in Iraq and against Israeli occupation.

The seminar, attended by delegations from three Arab coun-

tries in addition to Jordan, is designed to identify major obstacles in the way of women's endeavours to develop their professions and to point out women's needs to train in skills considered essential for leadership and management.

The participants will review five main working papers dedicated to improving the role and status of women and increasing their participation in the planning and decision-making processes.

Information Minister Hani Khasawneh, who is acting minister of labour and social development, and heads of concerned departments and U.N. agencies attended the opening ceremony.

NATIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

CALLIGRAPHY: His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, the Regent, Saturday delegated Minister of Culture and National Heritage Mohammad Al Hammouri to open an exhibition of Arabian calligraphy by Dr. Sami Mkarim.

MEDICAL ADVISER: His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, the Regent, has decided to appoint his private doctor, retired Major-General Dr. U'Meisb Yusef U'Meisb, as his medical adviser.

BOOK EXHIBITION: Under the Patronage of the Minister of Culture and National Heritage, the Jordanian-Soviet Friendship Society and the Soviet Cultural Centre in cooperation with Abdul Hamid Shoman Foundation will open the Soviet Book Exhibition on Sunday. The exhibition will be held at Abdul Hamid Shoman Foundation's Library.

IRAQ MINISTER TO ARRIVE: Iraqi Minister of Agriculture and Irrigation Karim Hassan Rida is due here Sunday evening at the head of an official delegation on a five-day official visit to Jordan.

MAFRAQ PROJECTS: A meeting was held here Saturday to discuss development projects that have been implemented in Mafraq Governorate in the past two years and those to be implemented in 1988. The acting governor who presided over the meeting said that JD 19 million have been spent over the past two years on projects included in the governorate's 1986-1990 five-year development plan.

CARTOON EXHIBITION: Dr. Fayed Al Khasawneh, Jordan University of Science and Technology Vice President for administrative affairs, Saturday opened an art exhibition by West German artist Horst Janssen. The seven-day exhibition at the university includes 40 cartoon paintings representing the various stages of life.

KUWAITI OFFICIAL LEAVES: Chairman of the board of directors and Director General of the Kuwait General Corporation for Agricultural and Fisheries Affairs Ibrahim Al Due'i Al Sabah Friday left for Kuwait at the end of a week-long visit to Jordan during which he was received by His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, Prime Minister Zaid Rifai and senior officials. Dnci' also held talks with Agriculture Minister Marwan Hmoud and senior officials on agricultural cooperation and signed a memorandum of understanding defining scopes of such cooperation.

GEOGRAPHIC TIES WITH CANADA: Royal Geographic Centre (RGC) Director Uqlah Dahman left for Canada Friday on a several-day official visit at the invitation of the Canadian government to look closely at remote-sensing equipment in use in Canada. Dahman is accompanied by members of the RGC's advisory committee and representatives of the ministries of agriculture, planning, water and irrigation.

TV & RADIO

JORDAN TELEVISION

Tel: 773111-19

PROGRAMME ONE

15:30 Koran
15:50 Programme review
16:55 Cartoons
17:05 Drama Rama
17:30 Animals Express
17:55 Local programme
18:20 Soccer
19:10 Local agricultural programme
19:40 Programme review
20:00 News in Arabic
20:40 Arabic series
21:40 Local varieties programme
23:00 News summary in Arabic

PROGRAMME TWO

18:00 Rue Carnot
18:30 L'Ecole des Fans
19:00 News in French
19:15 Les Sciences a la une (documentary)
19:30 News in Hebrew
19:45 Varieties
20:00 News in Arabic
20:30 Check it Out
21:15 Euro Football Championship from Germany (live)
22:00 News in English
22:15 Football continued
23:10 Richman, Poorman

RADIO JORDAN

855 KHz, AM & 99 MHz FM & partly on 95.9 KHz, SW
Tel: 774111-19

07:00

Light Music
07:30 Newsdesk
08:00 Morning Show
08:30 News Summary
11:05 In Concert
12:00 News Summary
12:05 Pop Talk
13:00 News Summary
13:45 Pop Session cont.
14:00 News Bulletin
14:10 Instrumentals
14:30 Science Report
15:00 Concert Hour
16:00 News Summary
16:45 Instrumentals
16:50 Favourites
17:30 Listeners' Choice
18:00 News Summary
18:05 Rhythmic and Blues
19:00 Newsdesk
19:30 Date with a Star
21:00 Evening Show
21:05 News Summary
21:55 Evening Show continued
22:00 Evening Show continued
23:00 News Summary

BBC WORLD SERVICE

639, 720, 1323 KHz

07:00 Newsdesk 07:30 The Seven Ages of Man 07:45 Reflections 07:50 Financial Review 08:00 World News 08:05 Twenty-Fours Hours: News Summary 08:30 Sports World 08:45 Letter from America 09:00 Newsdesk 09:30 Jazz for the Asking 10:00 World News 10:05 From Our Own Correspondent 10:45 Sports World 10:50 Sports World cont. 11:00 World News 11:05 Reflections 11:15 Pleasures Yours 12:00 World News 12:05 The Sunday Papers 12:15 Science in Action 12:45 Squaring the Triangle 13:00 News Summary followed by Short Story 13:15 Classical Record Review 13:30 Religious Service 14:00 World News 14:05 News About Britain 14:15 From Our Own Correspondent 14:30 Great British Concert Halls 15:00 News Summary followed by Play of the Week: A View From the Mountain 16:00 World News 16:05 Twenty-Fours Hours: News Summary 16:30 Sports Roundup 16:45 The Tony Myan Request Show including at 17:00 News Summary 17:30 Jazz Score 18:00 Radio Newsdesk 18:15 Concert Hall 19:00 World News 19:05 Commentary 19:15 From Coca to Cocaine 19:45 Letter from America 20:00 World News 20:05 Reflections 20:15 Jazz for the Asking 20:45 Sports Roundup 21:00 Newsdesk 21:30 News 21:35 Sunday Report 22:30 News Summary followed by Classical Record Review 22:15 A Confederacy of Dunces — Pan 2 22:45 I Heard You Say So 23:00 World News 23:05 Twenty-Fours Hours: News Summary 23:30 Sunday Hall Hour 24:00 News Summary followed by Short Story

VOICE OF AMERICA

MW 1260 & SW 7200, 9565, 1174, 11925 and 15210 Hz

07:00 News 07:10 VOA Morning 08:00 News 08:10 VOA Morning 09:00 News 09:10 VOA Morning 10:00 News 10:10 News 10:20 Sunday Report 22:30 Music, USA Standards 23:00 News 23:10 The Concert Hall 23:55 Editorial 24:00 News 00:10 New Horizons 00:30 Studio One

WHAT'S GOING ON

TODAY'S EVENTS

EXHIBITIONS

★ Permanent book exhibition, at Tower Building, Jabal Amman, 3rd Circle.
★ A permanent exhibition of plastic art by 27 Arab artists at the Plaza Hotel.
★ An art exhibition by Tawfiq Yabba at the French Cultural Centre.
★ An exhibition of Arabian Calligraphy by Dr. Sami Mkarim at Alia Art Gallery.
★ Sketches by Abdul Hamed Jundi. The Royal Cultural Centre at 10:00 a.m.

FILM

★ A film: "One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest" at the American Centre at 7:00 p.m.

CULTURAL CENTRES

Royal Cultural Centre .. Tel. 6610267
American Centre .. 644371
British Council .. 6361478
French Cultural Centre .. 637009
Goethe Institute .. 641993
Soviet Cultural Centre .. 644203
Soviet Cultural Centre .. 624049
Turkish Cultural Centre .. 639777
Haya Arts Centre .. 665195
Husseini Youth City .. 6671816
Y.W.C.A. .. 641793
Y.W.M.A. .. 646251
Amman Municipal Library .. 637111
Univ. of Jordan Library .. 843555

MUSEUMS

"Children's Heritage and Science Museum." Fun and knowledge for all ages, plus a small planetarium at the Haya Arts Centre. Open all week 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. and 3:30 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. Closed on Friday.
Folklore Museum: Jewelry and costumes over 100 years old. Also includes from Madaba and Jerash (4th to 18th centuries). The Roman Theatre, Amman. Opening hours: 9:00 a.m. - 5 p.m. Year-round. Tel. 651760.

Jordan Archaeological Museum: Has an excellent collection of the antiquities of Jordan. Jabal Al Qal'a (Citadel Hill). Opening hours: 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. (Fridays and official holidays) 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Closed Tuesdays.

SERVICE CLUBS

The Amman Lions Club. Meetings every first and third Wednesday at the Agency Palace Hotel, 7:30 p.m.
Lions Philadelphia Club. Meetings every second and fourth Wednesday at the Amman Hotel, 7:30 p.m.
Philadelphia Rotary Club. Meetings every Wednesday at the Holiday Inn, 1:30 p.m.
Rotary Club. Meetings every Tuesday at the International Hotel, 2:00 p.m.
Royal Automobile Club. Jabal Amman, Eighth Circle. Tel. 816334, 817534.

CHURCHES

St. Joseph Church (Roman Catholic) Jabal Amman, Tel. 624590.
Church of the Annunciation (Roman Catholic) Jabal Lubdeh, Tel. 637440.
De la Salle Church (Roman Catholic) Jabal Hussein, Tel. 61757.
Terrasanta Church (Roman Catholic). Jabal Lubdeh, mass in Italian language, meet every Saturday at 5:30 p.m. Tel: 623466.
Church of the Annunciation (Greek Orthodox) Abdali, Tel. 623541.
Anglican Church (Church of the Redeemer) Jabal Amman, Tel. 625363, chaplain's residence tel. 601359.
American Catholic Church Ashrafieh, Tel. 771331.
Armenian Orthodox Church Ashrafieh, Tel. 775361.
St. Ephraim Church (Syrian Orthodox) Ashrafieh, Tel. 771751.
Assam International Church (Interdenominational): meets at Southern Baptist School in Shmeisani, Tel. 677534.

Evangelical Lutheran Church (Church of the Good Shepherd) Amman, Arabic Service: Sunday 7 p.m. Rev. N. Sair (11205).
Rainbow Congregation (meets at the Good Shepherd's Church) Interdenominational-cum-Unitarian English Service: Saturday 6:30 p.m. Tel. 823005, Rev. Yeh.
The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints (Mormon) Tel. 815-817, 821-264.

FOR THE TRAVELLER

QUEEN ALIA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

This information is supplied by Royal Jordanian (RJ) information department at the Queen Alia International Airport. Tel. (08) 53308-5, where it should always be verified.

ARRIVALS ROYAL JORDANIAN (RJ) FLIGHTS (Terminal 1)

10:15 Jeddah (RJ)
10:20 Larnaca (RJ)
10:35 Doha (RJ)
10:40 Kuwait (RJ)
10:45 Dubai, Abu Dhabi (RJ)
11:00 Doha, Bahrain (RJ)
11:30 Los Angeles, Chicago, Vienna (RJ)
18:00 London (RJ)
18:10 Istanbul (RJ)
18:15 Paris (RJ)
18:30 New York, Amsterdam (RJ)
18:35 Cairo (RJ)
18:45 Madrid, Geneva (RJ)
18:55 Brussels, Frankfurt (RJ)
20:45 Rome (RJ)
20:10 Baghdad (RJ)

OTHER FLIGHTS (Terminal 2)

09:10 Berlin, Larnaca (BER)
11:40 Damascus (A2)
12:30 Baghdad (IA)
13:20 Cairo (MS)
13:45 Bahrain, Doha, Sharjah (GF)
14:35 Kuwait (KU)
14:40 Jeddah (SV)
17:00 Dubai (EK)
17:35 Athens (OA)
19:25 Frankfurt (LH)
20:15 Beirut (ME)
01:00 London, Cairo (BA)

DEPARTURES ROYAL JORDANIAN (RJ) FLIGHTS (Terminal 1)

11:45 Rome (RJ)
12:40 Vienna, New York (RJ)
12:50 Tunis, Casablanca (RJ)
12:40 Istanbul (RJ)
13:30 Aqaba, Cairo (RJ)
18:00 Kuwait (RJ)
18:50 Larnaca (RJ)
21:30 Abu Dhabi, Dubai (RJ)
21:45 Jeddah, Sana'a (RJ)
21:50 Baghdad (RJ)
22:15 Bangkok (RJ)

USEFUL TELEPHONE NOS.

EMERGENCIES

Amman governorate 891228
Amman Civil Defence 198, 199
Civil Defence Irbid 27183, 27131
Civil Defence Quswalemb 770733
Civil Defence Deir Alla 57306
Ambulance 193, 775111
Amman downtown fire brigade 198
First aid 63041
Blood Bank 778303
Civil Defence rescue 611111
Fire headquarters 622090-3
Police headquarters 630141
Police rescue 192, 621111, 637777
Police headquarters 630141
Traffic police 896390/1
Electric Power Co. 63638/4, 624881
Municipal water complaints 771125/8
Queen Alia Int. Airport (08)533030/0

NIGHT DUTY

AMMAN:
Dr. Amin Abdul Jabir 614222
Dr. Muhammad Al Horani 898332
Dr. Salman Al Dabboul 770751
Dr. Saleh Zayid 790677
Firas pharmacy 661912
Ferdows pharmacy 778336
Al Asma pharmacy 637055
Nastroukh pharmacy 632672
Al Salam pharmacy 632730
Yacoub pharmacy 644945
Shmeisani pharmacy 637660

TAXIS:

Ahram taxi 663911
Zaid taxi 664476
Khayyam taxi 641541
Cairo taxi 819157
Jordan taxi 623050
Kardi taxi 841309

HOSPITALS

Husseini Medical Centre 813813/32
Khalid Maternity, J. Amn 6442816
Aidh Maternity, J. Amn 642412
Jabal Amman Maternity 643362
Malhas, J. Amman 636140
Palestine, Shmeisani 6641714
Shmeisani Hospital 669131
University Hospital 843845/65
Al-Musharraf Hospital 6672279
The Islamic, Abdali 6601677
Al-Ahli, Abdali 6641646
Italian, Al-Muhajreen 7770173
Al-Bashir, J. Ashrafieh 775111/26
Army, Marka 891611/15
Queen Alia Hospital 60224050
Antal Hospital 674155

GENERAL

Jordan Television 773111/19
Radio Jordan 774111/19
Ministry of Tourism 642321
Hotel complaints 664172
Price complaints 601776
Telephone Information 12
Jordan and Middle East calls 10
Overseas calls 17
Repair service 11

MARKET PRICES

Upper/lower price in fils per kg.
Apple (French) 400 / 260
Apricot 750 / 650
Banana 320 / 280
Banana (Mukammal) 270 / 220
Beans 550 / 450
Cabbage 110 / 80
Carrot 120 / 80
Cauliflower 160 / 120
Cherry 1000 / 800
Corn 110 / 80
Cucumbers 150 / 100
Eggplant (large) 250 / 200
Eggplant (small) 200 / 150
Garlic 270 / 220
Grapes 600 / 400
Lemon (yellow) 520 / 450
Lemon (green) 400 / 350
Mallow 90 / 50
Marrow 120 / 80
Onion (dry) 90 / 60
Oranges (local) 300 / 250
Okra 380 / 300
Peas 750 / 650
Pepper (hot) 380 / 320
Pepper (sweet) 450 / 350
Pine 450 / 350
Potato 150 / 100
Strawberry 150 / 100
Tomatoes 1100 / 800
Watermelon 80 / 50
Sweetmelon 160 / 120

Washington State University president to visit Jordan

AMMAN (J.T.) — President of Washington State University (WSU), Dr. Samuel H. Smith will visit Jordan from June 12 through June 19.

The purpose of Smith's visit is to become more familiar with WSU's projects and activities in Jordan, to demonstrate WSU's commitment to its programmes and to explore mutually beneficial relationships and activities with the University of Jordan, the Ministry of Agriculture and other agencies.

Dr. Smith will be accompanied

to Jordan by Dr. James Henson, Director of International Programme Development.

While in Jordan, Smith will meet with University of Jordan president Dr. Abdul Salam Al Majali and the deans of Agriculture and Research Studies.

He will also meet with Marwan Hmoud, the minister of agriculture and the director of the National Centre for Agricultural Research and Technology Transfer. He will tour facilities at Baqa and the Jordan Valley.

WSU is the lead institution for

the Jordan Highland Agricultural Development Project (JHADP), sponsored by USAID, and located at the National Centre for Agricultural Research and Technology Transfer (NCARTT), Baqa.

The university has been involved in Jordan since 1974 with development programmes at the University of Jordan and the Jordan Valley Agricultural Services Project, Dier Alla.

This is Smith's first visit to Jordan.

NHF opens workshop on health

AMMAN (J.T.) — Noor Al Hussein Foundation (NHF) will Sunday open a workshop entitled "Creative Media Message Development for Health," in which 20 people representing various information and health institutions in Jordan will take part.

The workshop will be chaired by Dr. Farah Al Kamel director of the Centre for Development Information in Egypt and a specialist at the Academy for Educational Development in the United States.

Parliament speakers, Dudin receive Australian team

Lawzi: King exerts all efforts to bring about Mideast peace

AMMAN (Petra) — His Majesty King Hussein is exerting all his efforts to help bring about a just and durable peace in the Middle East through an international conference, which can implement U.N. Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338, and ensure the application of the principles of human rights, Speaker of the Upper House of Parliament Ahmad Lawzi said Saturday.

Addressing a visiting Australian parliamentary delegation, Lawzi stressed that any just and comprehensive peace in the Middle East should be based on complete Israeli withdrawal from territories occupied since 1967 and the recognition of the rights of the Palestinian people in their homeland.

"Israel refuses all peace initiatives to end the Arab-Israeli conflict and to ensure security and stability for the Middle East. It continues to reject the idea of an international conference and insists on maintaining its occupation of Arab Jerusalem and its settlement and expansionist policies in Arab territories," Lawzi noted.

Referring to the situation inside the occupied Arab territories, he said Israeli occupation authorities continue to exercise all forms of inhuman practices against the Arab population and at the same time maintains its air raids on Palestinian refugees in their camps in Arab countries.

The house speaker also referred to Israel's demolition of Arab homes, destruction of the Arab economic sector and uprooting of Palestinians from their homeland.

Lawzi told the delegation that their visit to the region coincides with the ongoing uprising in the occupied Arab territories against Israel's inhuman and repressive measures.

Lawzi requested the delegation members to relay to their country a true image of the situation in the Middle East and Israel's practices against the oppressed people of Palestine.

The Australian delegation later

met with Speaker of the Lower House Akef Al Fayed who also spoke about the situation in the Middle East and said that the present instability in the region was due to Israel's intransigence and aggressive policies.

Fayed also spoke about the Iran-Iraq war and Iran's rejection of U.N. Security Council Resolution 598 to end the conflict with the Arab Nation.

During the meeting, the head of the visiting delegation said that the delegation members were on a fact finding mission to the Middle East complementing visits to the region by the Australian prime minister and the foreign minister.

"The Australian government will continue to contribute to international efforts to bring about peace to the Middle East and remove all obstacles impeding the achievement of that cause."

The delegation members were later guests of honour at a lunch hosted by Upper House of Parliament Member Abdul Rahman Khalifa.

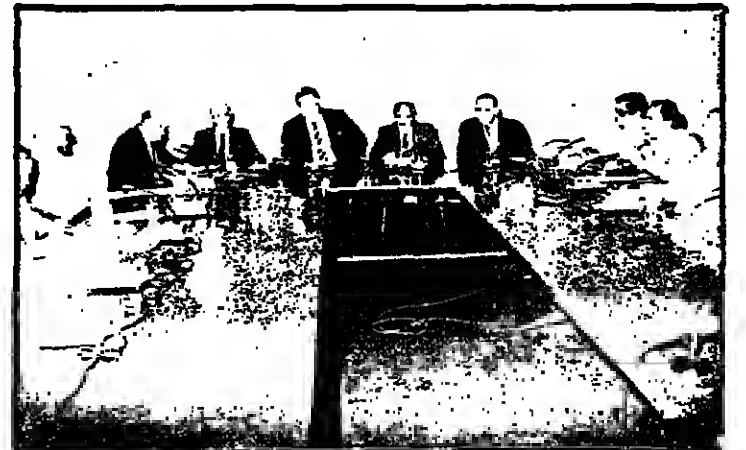
Also Saturday, the delegation called at the Ministry of Occupied Territories Affairs for a discussion on the Palestine question and developments in the Middle East region.

Minister of Occupied Territories Affairs Marwan Dudin spoke in detail on the displacement of hundreds of thousands of Arabs from their Palestinian homeland as a result of Israel's acts of aggression since 1948.

Dudin said that the current uprising in the occupied Arab territories broke out as a result of Israel's inhuman practices against the Arab population and its refusal



Upper House of Parliament Speaker Ahmad Al Lawzi (above) and Lower House Speaker Akef Al Fayed (below) receive the Australian parliamentary delegation in Amman Saturday (Petra photo)



al to implement U.N. Security Council resolutions concerning the Palestine question.

"Israel's persistence in occupying Arab land and its policies drive to change the Arab character of the occupied lands are cause the Palestinians to pursue their revolt," the minister noted.

"The uprising he added is an open conflict between the invaders and the legitimate owners of the land, who had been denied their rights and who had been subjected to intolerable economic and social conditions."

The minister briefed the Australian delegation on Jordan's continued moral, political and material assistance to the Palestinian people since 1967, and the Ministry of Occupied Territories Affairs' endeavours in cooperation with UNRWA (United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees) to improve the conditions of Palestinian refugees and displaced people living in camps on the East Bank.

The ministry's Secretary General Ahmad Qatanani was present at the meeting.



Ala' was at home with his family when Israeli soldiers burst into the house throwing tear gas cylinders, which knocked over a kerosene stove. Fire broke out and his five-year-old sister was burnt

to death. His 10-year-old sister was also badly burned on the leg. Ala's burns are so severe that the bone in his right leg is infected. He is receiving skin grafts.

Physician: Israelis using gases other than tear gas against Palestinian civilians

By Najwa Najjar
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — Physicians and concerned individuals, who have been to the West Bank and Gaza during the intifada (uprising), suspect that the Israeli authorities are using gases other than the tear gas they claim to be using against the Palestinian civilians.

Complaints have been sent to tear gas manufacturing companies and to governments regarding the use of tear gas in confined areas and attempts have been made to discover what other gases are being used.

One physician, who recently visited Jordan after a one month working visit to the West Bank and Gaza, spoke to the Jordan Times on this subject and on how the overall health and health care in the occupied territories has been disturbed as a result of the intifada.

"Some of the Palestinians exposed to tear gas have been reported to have had totally different symptoms than the ones evident with the use of ordinary tear gas," said Director of Health for UNRWA's (United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees) five middle east regions, Dr. John Hiddlestone.

Hiddlestone, a specialist in internal medicine from New Zealand, explained that with the use of ordinary tear gas, eye, nose and throat irritation, and difficulty breathing may be experienced. He said these symptoms disappear in fresh air, however.

What Hiddlestone found during his visit last month was Israeli soldiers using tear gas in confined areas such as dwellings, schools and medical clinics.

"The misuse of teargas, which specifically states on the outside canister 'not to be used in confined areas', can be fatal to the two extremities of life, the very young and very old."

Babies' breathing tubes are "as big as pencils," therefore, the excess mucus which is excreted when tear gas is inhaled, can block the tubes, he said.

"Those with bronchitis, asthma and heart failure can not tolerate tear gas either," he added.

He said his main worries were the totally unrelated symptoms present when tear gas was administered.

According to Hiddlestone, the UNRWA medical staff treated several cases of severe abdominal and colic pain and muscle weakness in the limbs.

Miscarriages and abortions

Women in the early part of pregnancy who suffered from abdominal pain either miscarried or aborted. In a short period of time 60 such cases were reported in Rabat and Khan Younis Refugee Camps, he said. Women in the latter part of their pregnancies tended to give birth prematurely. Six cases were reported in one day in Arroubi Refugee Camp.

A gas, considered abbreviated mace, has said to be used to weaken the limbs of Palestinians. The Israelis have repeatedly denied using anything other than ordinary tear gas and have said that these effects are "hysterical and due to psychological problems." This declaration was reiterated at the World Health Assembly in Geneva last month.

Meanwhile, the UNRWA medical staff is attempting to discover what is being used.

"As medicines we are anxious to find if there are antedotes or treatments to lessen the pain and to save pregnancies," he said.

Trans Technology, scientific advisors to firms that make riot control gas, and other worldwide cooperatives have been asked by UNRWA to send information about all the effects of tear gas.

"None of the latter symptoms were mentioned," Hiddlestone said.

UNRWA has also written to governments asking for information. The two governments which received such letters were the American and the Austrian because, "we saw these countries names on spent canisters," he said, adding that the Austrian government claims they have not supplied tear gas to Israel.

"However, an Austrian member of parliament, said he had seen such canisters during a trip to the occupied territories.

Hiddlestone said he cannot say whether the Americans have responded to the accusations since he has not been in Vienna, UNRWA headquarters, for a while.

Tear gas manufacturers have been approached by UNRWA and six other groups of concerned individuals, including the American physicians for life.

"Some of the manufacturers are very concerned and have said that they would stop supplying tear gas if it was being misused," he said.

The information UNRWA gathered will go into the Commission General's report to the U.N.

Included in the report will be the intifada's effect on the health care in occupied territories.

"The work of the 41 UNRWA health clinics, government and private hospitals and private clinics have been deterred. Instead of improving the health of the Palestinians, the staffs must tend to those who have been beaten, shot by live ammunition or rubber bullets, or those who are suffering the effects of tear gas," he said.

Curfews affect health

The curfews, which occur almost daily, work to the detriment of the Palestinians' health.

Hiddlestone cited an example of an individual with a chronic disease. "With a curfew in effect, how can he or she get to the clinic or hospital?" he asked.

Other Palestinians are not going to hospitals or clinics out of fear.

"The Israelis enter the medical places, see who is there and take the addresses of the patients. Reprisal attacks on their families follow. I have personally examined old people whose bones have been broken during reprisal attacks," he said.

To accommodate the Palestinians, UNRWA staff has been going to shelters to treat the wounded and sick. Two physiotherapists from UNICEF have joined the UNRWA staff.

"There is an urgent need for physiotherapists. Some patients can be permanently handicapped without their help," he said.

Hiddlestone said that the rubber bullets are not rubber they have a central core of metal and are surrounded by a thin layer of rubber, he said. One of his patients, a five-year-old girl, was hit by rubber bullets in both of her buttocks and on her calf.

"The bruises were so severe that it could have led to muscle scarring and weakening of the muscles, if the girl was not treated by a physiotherapist."

Hiddlestone also pointed to the damage done to Palestinians' eyes.

"Rubber bullets are being shot at the eyes," he said. "In St. Johns Eye Hospital there have been a number of operations, and several patients have had their eyes removed."

Psychological effect

Another aspect which has not been thoroughly explored is the psychological effect on both the Palestinians and the Israelis.

"I find it hard to see how Israeli soldiers, who are 20 and 21 years old, will not be affected by the brutality they are inflicting on the Palestinians," he said. "How can they be loving and caring fathers when they are involved in such brutality week after week?" He asked.

For the Palestinians, who face "extreme overreaction, the whole fabric of society will be affected. If life is conducted in a normal manner, there are arguments and differences of opinion, however, in this case the response to any incident is extreme," he said. "What this will reap is crops of affected people, if and when the intifada is over."

Hiddlestone, who was in Vietnam during the war, said what he saw in the occupied territories was "worse."

"In every war suffering is expected. What is distressing here, is that unarmed civilians, old people and children are being bashed and shot at for throwing stones, shouting slogans, waving the Palestinian flag, burning tires and blocking roads," Hiddlestone said.

Despite the hardships the Palestinians are facing, Hiddlestone said he believes that "goodwill has been shown from all corners of the world."

He referred to specialists and physicians who have volunteered help for months at a time.

"These are some of the top people in their profession," he said. "In addition, medical supplies have come from several countries around the world, he stated."

"While some of the Palestinians' symptoms can be treated medically, the real cure lies in politics," Hiddlestone concluded.

Passport, civil registration departments to merge

GENEVA (Petra) — The Director General of the Civil Registration and Passport Department Issa Omari held a press conference Saturday, to orient the public on the process of merging the former departments of passports and civil registration into one department, which took effect as of last February.

Omari said that the move was taken by the government upon a recommendation of a Royal Commission to overhaul the civil service system in the Kingdom.

The unified department is bound to make it easy for citizens to acquire a family registration

book, an identity card and a passport, all from one source and at one department, where all documents and files are found for these processes, Omari noted.

He said the merger necessitated the formation of seven new departments which will take charge of the legal affairs, personnel, social security, administrative development and training, finance, purchases and the management of offices in various provinces.

According to Omari there are 45 civil registration offices and 15 passport offices around the King-

dom, all of which will be included in the new merger to be operated through the central department in Amman.

Omari said that only Jordanian citizens have the right to family registration books and passports from his department, and the process of issuing the required documents will be facilitated through the presence of computer systems and trained personnel.

He said public awareness teams will be touring bedouin settlements in the southern regions of Jordan to urge them to have their names and those of their families

registered so as to obtain identity cards.

According to Omari, his department has so far registered a total of 477,953 Jordanian families numbering nearly 3,875,519 citizens.

Omari made it clear that apart from Jordanians, wives of Jordanians of non-Jordanian Arab nationalities are entitled to a Jordanian nationality following three-years of their marriage but non-Jordanian wives of non-Arab nationalities will have to wait five years to obtain Jordanian citizenship.

King Abdullah Complex to open this summer

By Nermeen Murad
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — The ultimate question that presents itself to Jordanians daily is where can we go? the answer may be, to King Abdullah Ibn Al Hussein Complex and Public Park which will open by the end of this summer.

An area of 82 dunums has been utilised by the Amman Development Corporation (ADC) "as an escape for Ammanites from the monotony of their daily lives and the sandy colour which dominates the landscape of the capital."

According to Sami Al Rashid, director general of ADC, the idea of establishing such a complex came up because there is a lack of "comfortable places located in reasonable places which could attract inhabitants of Amman to relax or play in safety, surrounded by a pleasant landscaped environment, yet close to the centre of the city."

In his opening statement Rashid said that this media introduction to the project was being held to commemorate the Great Arab Revolt and to pay homage to His Majesty King Hussein.

The corner site is located in an area of Shmeisani and is prominently situated adjacent to the old Wadi Sagra Circle. It is bounded on two sides and accessible from both Sharif Nasser Ibn Jamil Street and Shaker Ibn Zeid Street.

Of the 82,000 square metres buildings are erected on 30,000 square metres and the remaining 52,000 square metres are landscaped parkland. The whole projects offers a variety of attractions which include cultural, recreational and sport services.

Rashid pointed out that ADC works are built on commercial basis and its policy is to develop the services in the capital, "therefore we cannot just plan a nation-

al park, this would be the responsibility of the Greater Amman Municipality and it is working as hard as possible."

He added that any project undertaken by ADC has to cover its expenses which "in turn would enable the corporation to execute new projects without earning high financial obligations."

The project consists of a shopping mall, children's sector, children's open air theatre, tuna park, a grotto, the public park, circular colonnade, and a car park which could take as many as 750 cars at one time.

The shopping mall is designed to have the shape of the Islamic markets (souqs) of which the dominant features are the Islamic arches. On the roof of the shopping mall, arcade bridges are constructed to connect the supermarket and the shopping mall.

Plants on the roof of the shopping mall are beautifully distributed among the seats and walkways.

The children's sector includes different elements, such as a kindergarten, which would be fully supervised with play rooms for three distinct age groups, children under two years, two to four years and four years and over.

The kindergarten would have nursing facilities, an open air play area, storage for toys, pram stores and staff facilities.

The children's sector also includes a children's open air theatre, with a roller skating arena or a synthetic ice skating rink. It also includes a luna park which is a large fair ground with four or five mechanical rides and a large undulating slides.

The grotto, is a cave system accessible from the luna park area and the upper part of the amphitheatre and would be used either as an aquarium or a restaurant.

The topography of the site has been exploited well in providing a

touch of beauty to the landscaped area. Stairs and open corridors are distributed among the whole area to provide an access to the different sections of the project and especially to the restaurant at the top northern side of the project.

Set in the hill side is the open amphitheatre which occupies an area of approximately 3,100 square metres with a seating capacity of 3,000 spectators. Facilities for cinema projection and theatre shows are installed in the projection room. Set below the stage are many changing rooms, stores, management offices and service rooms.

A fourteen storey building was to be established on the eastern side of the project, and the idea has since been cancelled. "We studied the office market in the capital and we found that there would be no demand on such a building at this time so we delayed it," Rashid told the dignitaries and reporters who attended his media introduction to the project.

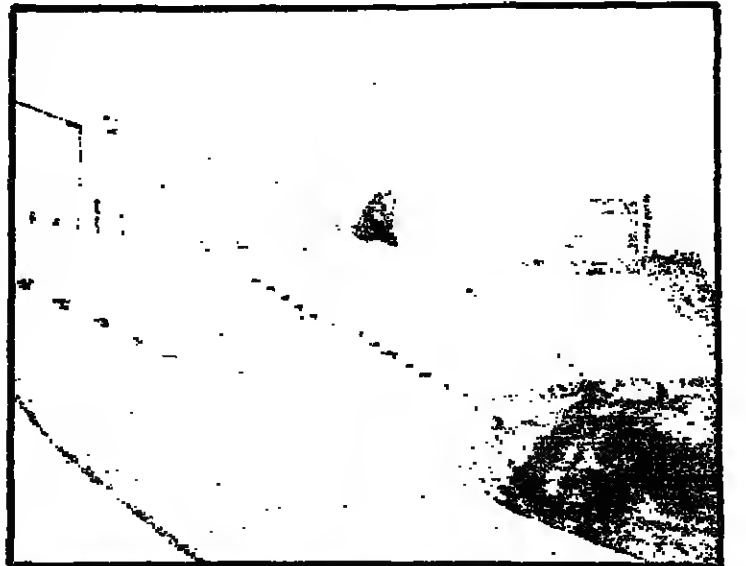
Instead of the cancelled building, a circular colonnade is to be built there. The design of the colonnade is inspired by the Celebration Court in the historical city of Jerash.

The cost of the project, according to Rashid, is estimated a JD 7 million, and the annual rate of return is expected to reach 7 per cent.

The ADC was formed initially in 1979 to deal with traffic jam problems and the lack of parking facilities downtown, and to develop services within the boundaries of Greater Amman.

The major shareholders of ADC are Housing Bank, the municipality of Amman and the Pension Fund. The three invest their capital in ventures offering economic and social profitability.

ADC has already completed two projects, on Shabsough Street and Prince Mohammad Street which are in the heart of the commercial area, to meet the growing needs of parking requirements downtown and to help ease traffic congestion.



The amphitheatre at the King Abdullah Ibn Al Hussein complex

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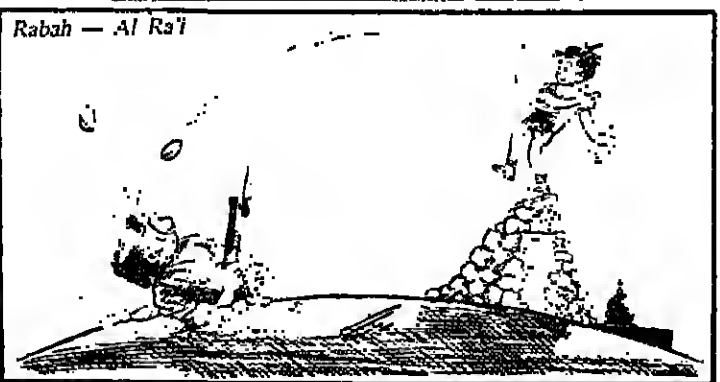
Timely reminder

THE extraordinary Arab summit conference in Algiers should mark an important stage in the Palestinian and pan-Arab struggle for Palestinian national rights in Palestine, if the post-summit deliberations among the key Arab parties can build on the summit consensus and formulate a coherent long-term strategy of political and material aid for the Palestinians. Virtually single-handedly, the Palestinian people have injected important new political and diplomatic considerations into the Arab-Israeli peace-making picture — the most important of which is the dramatic reassertion of the reality of Palestinian nationalism. But the Palestinian uprising cannot single-handedly achieve Palestinian national rights, and the next stage of the struggle, which has gone on since the early days of this century, should include a coordinated pan-Arab effort that would help translate the gains of the uprising into tangible diplomatic advances.

The focus of Arab efforts must continue to be our drive to make it clear to the Israelis and to the Americans that peace will come to Palestine and to Israel when the Israelis and the Palestinians can both enjoy an equal measure of national rights and security. A unified Arab stand will help rid the Americans of naive notions based on the assumption that a diplomatic process can be launched which includes the guarantee of full rights and security for Israel but only of the promise of a measure of Palestinian rights that have to be culled from future negotiations. The sustained Palestinian uprising should help rid the Americans of their unrealistic assumptions, while forcing a majority of Israelis to accept the fact that they can only enjoy true peace and security when the Palestinians enjoy the same thing.

We are confident that the Arab states and the Palestinian people will forge the necessary policies to bring about such developments. The Algiers summit was a timely reminder of the challenge that lies ahead.

ARABIC PRESS EDITORIALS



Al Ra'i: Shamir's wishful thinking

ISRAELI Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir has expressed hope that the Algiers summit resolutions will be soon forgotten like others taken by previous summits. He also said that the Arabs are not in the habit of implementing their resolutions, a statement considered as part of Israel's long-standing propaganda campaign against the Arabs. His statement this time came to cast doubt on the Arab Nation's credibility before the world, and to prove once again to the Arabs that Israel does not want to learn from the lesson of the uprising, but wants to continue to deceive the world with its falsehoods. The uprising which is entering its seventh month now was considered by Israel at the beginning as a storm in a tea cup and that Israeli troops will quell the uprising in a few weeks. The uprising and the Iraqi victories have both helped to refute Israel's allegations about the Arabs and their capabilities and their determination to pursue the struggle for freedom and liberation. Shamir should realise that the Arab revolt in Palestine will continue and will be assisted by the Arab countries as decided at the summit in Algiers, because only through revolt and continued struggle against oppression can the Arabs win their freedom and liberate their homeland. Shamir should also realise that his government's rejection of the idea of an international conference was instrumental in triggering the uprising inside the occupied Arab lands.

Al Dustour: Summit support for uprising

THE Algiers summit has reaffirmed the Arab countries' total support for the Palestinian people's uprising in the occupied Arab territories, and has taken other measures designed to bolster solidarity among all Arabs in the face of the common threats. The convening of the summit is in itself a favourable response to the needs of the Arab Nation, and a call for help from the oppressed Palestinians struggling for freedom. The summit in Algiers has thus given an impetus to the current uprising and paved the way for genuine moral and material support for the freedom fighters who are seeking an end to Israeli occupation. The summit also reaffirmed the Arab countries' determination to maintain their solidarity in the face of common dangers in Palestine and in the Gulf region which is threatened by Iranian aggression. The summit expressed the Arab Nation's total support for Iraq in its just struggle to defend Arab soil, and denounced Iran's acts of provocations and aggression on Kuwait and Saudi Arabia. For this reason, the Algiers summit can be considered as one more stage on the road for bolstering inter-Arab solidarity and corroborating the nation's struggle for regaining its rights.

Sawt Al Shaab: Special relationship

JORDAN does not accept a situation where it finds itself rivalling other parties for achieving selfish aims in Palestine. Jordan has been totally committed to all Arab resolutions and has been keen on implementing them in serving Arab causes in general and the Palestine cause in particular. Since the start of the Palestine issue and in total commitment to the 1974 Arab summit resolutions, Jordan has been shouldering its national duty towards the Palestinian people, setting an example to others in this concern. Above all Jordan's special relationship with the Palestinian people can be by no means be affected by any events or developments on the Arab scene and can by no means be like relations between other Arab countries. This special relationship resulted from the interaction of the people of Palestine and Jordan and since the outbreak of the Great Arab Revolt which aimed at stemming the spread of Zionism in the Arab region. Jordan, while remaining committed to all Arab resolutions, will pursue the endeavour to support the Palestinians to achieve their national goals.

America's Left and the Palestinians

By Jane Hunter

A large Palestinian flag snapped in the biting Minnesota wind above the 3,000 demonstrators. Among the signs they carried demanding an end to U.S. aid to El Salvador and the anti-Nicaraguan Contras, were a scattering of placards condemning the Israeli occupation. A year ago — even six months ago — these expressions would not have been welcome at such a demonstration, called against U.S. policy in Central America.

Three years ago, frustrated that, once again, a West Coast coalition had refused to approve a slogan about the Middle East, an American-Arab group hired a plane to tow their slogan above the coalition's annual San Francisco demonstration. Although not oblivious to the plight of the Palestinians and not unaware of Israel's support of Reagan Administration policies in Central America, the great majority of leftist, peace and human rights organisations in this country hesitated to take a stand on Israel lest they be attacked as "anti-Semitic."

The Palestinian uprising has changed that. "I feel, for the first time, American public opinion is making a solid 180-degree turn, something I didn't feel in 1982," says former Senator James Abourezk, now national chairman of the American-Arab Anti-Discrimination Committee (ADC). On the left this has been discernible in increased attendance at demonstrations against

Israel's occupation policies and in the support given by many peace, anti-nuclear, anti-intervention and civil rights organisations at large protests during the March visit of Israeli Prime Minister Shamir.

The sweeping nature of this change became astonishingly clear to me when I addressed the March 27 demonstration organised by a coalition of groups in Minneapolis. A year ago it is doubtful that I, or anyone primarily identified as a critic of Israel, would have been invited to speak. As it was, nobody even asked me what I planned to say.

"A year ago it is doubtful that anyone identified as a critic of Israel would have been invited to speak."

I ran through the litany of abuses Israel and the U.S. inflict on the developing world. There was a scattering of applause when I called for the CIA to get out of the Philippines, a bit more at the mention of Panama, Guatemala, El Salvador, Angola, the U.S. troops in Honduras. Then, when I suggested we tell Congress to stop spending our tax dollars on the Israeli occupation, the entire crowd roared for a whole minute. Middle East activists I have spoken to since ascribe the Left's new concern for the Palestinians to three things: the uprising, which lifted the Palestinian problem from one among many static

miseries abetted by Washington; the new willingness of U.S. Jewish organisations and individuals to criticise the Israeli government and thus to legitimise such criticism; and the media, which, having shaken off some of its usual constraint, has been providing revealing details about the occupation and Israel's policies.

The foundations were there. Moved by the 1986 attack on Libya, the Pledge of Resistance, a national organisation which opposes U.S. Central America policy with demonstrations and civil disobedience, called for a systematic study of the links between U.S. policy in the Middle East and in Central America. Many activists came forward to defend the "Los Angeles Eight". Palestinians arrested in January 1987 and still fighting deportation. And a coalition was formed last autumn to oppose the closing of the PLO's Washington office.

Now, no longer fearful of being branded "anti-Semitic", activists are throwing themselves directly into Middle East work. "All of a sudden people are popping up, saying they want to organise a chapter," said Hilton Obenzin, a member of the national executive of the new Palestine Solidarity Committee, (formerly the 29 November Committee for Palestine) which has recently added 6 new chapters.

Is this new motion on the left capable of changing U.S. policy toward Israel? While much disparaged abroad for its failure to achieve electoral victories and for its spectacularly low profile, the

Left's potential should nonetheless not be discounted. Through their work in electoral campaigns, their persistent lobbying of legislators and the media, activist organisations exert a significant influence on policy — particularly on Congress, that last bastion of unquestioning support for Israel.

Americans for Middle East Peace (AMEP), a coalition spearheaded by the Washington-based Arab-American Institute (AAI), is currently working to inject the right of Palestinian statehood into the 1988 electoral campaigns. According to Robin Madrid of AAI, AMEP has already succeeded in having pro-statehood resolutions passed by one third of the Texas Democratic party's district conventions. Many on the left protested to the Jackson campaign when Jesse Jackson said he would not, if elected, meet Yasser Arafat.

The new upsurge of support for the Palestinian cause is evidently significant enough to worry Israel's supporters. "There is no question that 25 per cent of the activists in the Democratic party are isolationists, radical-left pro-PLO and anti-Israel," fretted Ed Koch, the ultra-Zionist mayor of New York. So many people across the U.S. are wearing kufiyas that even street vendors now sell them. And CBS television's Evening News sent reporters out on the street to find out if some weren't wearing them simply as a fashion item, rather than as a statement of solidarity — Middle East International, London.

Arms and the fight for Israel's soul

By Colman McCarthy

WASHINGTON — Israel's ambassador to the United States, Moshe Arad, believes "there are questions about what is happening to the State of Israel — to its soul, to its dedication to human rights."

Questions are there, for sure, but Arad, a ducker, isn't answering. The ambassador's comment, a model understatement, came in an interview in Washington Jewish Week's commemorative issue on Israel's turning 40.

Those looking for introspection from Arad, or at least a slight scurry off the beaten path of platitudes, were denied. Instead, he gave the peace-through-strength line: "We built an army we can be proud of, the strongest army in the Middle East. If we had not been strong enough, Sadat would not have come to Jerusalem."

Nor would Israel's terrorists have gone to Tunis to assassinate Abu Jihad, nor been able to slay nearly 160 Palestinians in recent months, nor maintain a military occupation in Palestine that sanctions the beating and tear-gassing of women and children, nor try to deport a Palestinian pacifist who holds a legal residency permit and is married to an American.

Arad's interview avoided the unavoidable, that Israel's current crisis is less because of the Palestinian uprising than the inevitable rising up of its soulless militarism. The killing of 160 Palestinians logically follows repeated political decisions to become "the strongest army in the Middle East," to be insatiable in the appetite to become one of the world's largest arms producers. In this network of death, which began flourishing after the war of 1967, estimated weapon sales are more than \$2 billion a year. More than 60 nations, along with various freelance marauders, are clients. An estimated 16 per cent of its exports are arms, against 4.5 per cent for the United States.



With 1987 having seen more wars or conflicts than any year in history, as well as a record high in global military expenditures, Israel has more to answer for than merely why its soldiers are killing West Bank rock throwers. Picking on the weak is a child's game compared with Israel's alliances in arms deals.

In "Israel and Latin America: The Military Connection," Bishara Bahbah, a political scientist with a doctorate from Harvard, writes of past deals with the anti-Semitic government of Argentina. Anti-Semitism "may have reached its apogee at the time Israel was stepping up its arms-export drive to Argentina in the late 1970s."

Thus, while Jewish prisoners held without charge in Argentine jails were being forced to kneel before pictures of Hitler and tortured to accompanying chants of "Jew! Jew!", Argentina was receiving a series of high-ranking Israeli military officers on "friendly visits" to sell arms. Considering that the Argentine junta's anti-Semitic activities were well-known, having been

documented by the U.S. Congress, the Catholic Church, and especially by the local branch of the American Jewish Committee, it is impossible that Israel was "not aware of the situation."

It couldn't have been unaware either, of the repressive records of other governments in the market for military electronics and on up to fighter planes. Israel's selling of arms to South Africa and Nicaragua in the 1970s was from the same passion for profit over principle that led to sales to China and Khomeini's Iran in the 1980s. Bishara Bahbah reports on Moshe Dayan's defence in the late 1950s of sales to West Germany: "Germany would become strong with or without Israeli weapons — but would Israel?"

Little of this seems a bother, or even a mistake, in the United States. Why should it? Israel, with more than one-fourth of its gross domestic product going to the military, is a brother in arms to America. Both have no moral restraints in selling weapons to juntas, dictators or both sides in a war. The two countries think alike and, increasingly, share

alike. Such U.S. corporations as General Motors, GTE, Motorola, United Technologies and Control Data are either total or part owners of Israeli arms companies.

Sheila Ryan writes in the Middle East Report: "Israeli military industries now publicly offer stock in the United States, both through stock-exchange listings and over the counter. U.S. residents wishing to invest in Israeli military industries can now simply call their brokers and purchase these stocks as conveniently as any others."

Neither Israel the rabid arms peddler nor Israel the mindless retaliator is the Israel foreseen by Rabbi Abraham Heschel, Martin Buber or other modern Jewish prophets mindful of the ancient Isaiah and Amos. Whatever aspirations to democracy Israel may have had 40 years ago — and many have been fulfilled — are cancelled out by its becoming another war state.

Where is Israel's soul? Not where its militaristic heart obviously is — The Washington Post.

Turkish-Greek talks likely to define future relations

By John Owen-Davies
Reuters

ANKARA — Five months after an historic first meeting in Switzerland, the prime ministers of Turkey and Greece meet in Athens next week for talks likely to define the future course of ties between their countries.

Officials on both sides of the Aegean Sea, over which the two NATO states nearly went to war last year, are cautious on the expected outcome of the talks.

Ankara-based diplomats say both leaders, assertive men with political futures largely pegged to the rapprochement, should reach some concrete conclusions to help heal ancient rifts. "They are condemned to do something substantial either on Cyprus or the Aegean," a senior diplomat said.

"Failure may set back the largely atmospheric result of the Davos talks and affect public opinion in both countries."

Ozal, on the first official visit to Athens by a Turkish premier

since 1952, has prepared for the talks with only a small coterie of trusted aides. Both he and Papandreu have a known penchant for political surprise.

"The Davos process is the baby of the two prime ministers. They take care of the baby themselves," said a foreign ministry source.

"The fact Papandreu is coming to a general election next year could restrict decisions out of Athens," he added.

NEWS ANALYSIS

Turkey's troops based in a breakaway Turkish-Cypriot state in northern Cyprus form the central issue in Athens-Ankara ties. To Turkey's dismay, this has now impinged on its own links with the European Community (EC) and the U.S. Congress.

Ankara has ruled out any withdrawal of troops until there is a solution to the 25-year-old problem of division between the ethnic Greek and Turkish communities in Cyprus.

"We can't pull out even one soldier as long as we are pressured," Ozal said last week during a visit to the United States, partly for a medical check after heart surgery in 1987.

"People dealing and negotiating with Turkey should know by now that you cannot force your decisions on Turkey," said Seyfi Tashan, head of the Foreign Policy Institute.

"On Cyprus, we will need a more impartial attitude, not only on the part of the Western world but also in persuading the leaders of the Greek and Turkish Cypriot communities to meet."

There are signs that Cypriot President George Vassiliou and Turkish-Cypriot leader Rauf Denktaş might meet next month.

"A limited troop withdrawal is extremely unlikely," one diplomat said. "The pressure has been created by the Greek side. But maybe something general on Cyprus will be enough."

Political analysts say Ozal could offer a conditional plan for

a troop withdrawal or Band Varosha, the deserted Greek Cypriot sector of Famagusta port city, to U.N. control.

Officials say progress is possible on the Aegean, mainly over the continental shelf issue which is fundamental to other problems in the area such as air space and mineral rights.

Reopening communications between the two NATO air forces is another possibility, military sources said.

The systems were closed in 1974 when Turkish troops invaded Cyprus after officers of the junta then ruling Greece led a bloody coup in Nicosia.

Ozal and Papandreu got together in Davos after three decades of enmity between their countries almost exploded into war over Aegean rights last year. "It is in the basic interest of both countries to have conciliation, not confrontation," Tashan said. "Both have common threat perceptions from the Warsaw Pact."

OPEN FORUM

They talked about children too

WORLD attention focussed most recently on the Moscow summit between United States President Ronald Reagan and the Secretary General of the Soviet Communist Party Mikhail Gorbachev. Subjects that were on the Moscow agenda, such as disarmament and international cooperation, are of crucial importance to world peace and the well-being of the human race. In the midst of a loaded political agenda, a new factor, unknown to the world before, emerged and caught attention. It is a factor that deals with the future of humanity from the point of view of preserving life itself rather than through the mere reduction of instruments of death and destruction.

The two leaders, in their joint communiqué, called for accelerated world-wide action to reduce childhood deaths from readily preventable causes. It specifically referred to programmes being implemented by the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) and the World Health Organisation (WHO). Both leaders reaffirmed their support for the UNICEF/WHO goal of reducing the scale of preventable childhood deaths through the most effective methods of saving young, innocent lives. The two leaders urged other countries and the international community to intensify efforts to achieve this goal.

UNICEF Executive Director James P. Grant and WHO Director General Haidet Mahler, with the endorsement of U.N. Secretary General Perez de Cuellar, had asked the two superpower leaders to reaffirm their support for primary health care. The two directors stressed Soviet-U.S. cooperation in the global eradication of smallpox in the seventies, and the leading contribution of American and Soviet scientists in providing vaccines that will help worldwide eradication of polio. The call by President Reagan and Secretary General Gorbachev is the latest testament of the growing alliance of national leaders, governments, international organisations and non-governmental and private institutions which have responded to de Cuellar's call in 1982 for urgent action to reduce the death and permanent disablement of millions of small children from malnutrition and disease.

This global alliance was also demonstrated during the recent meeting of the Council of Arab Health Ministers in Amman last April. An important resolution was adopted calling for the reduction of infant mortality among Arab children by at least 50 per cent in 1990 from what it was in 1980. The Council of Arab Social Affairs Ministers and the Council of Gulf Health Ministers had earlier adopted similar resolutions to save Arab children and ensure their healthy development.

Countries of the Arab region lead the world in implementing expanded programmes of immunisation to achieve the U.N. target of Universal Child Immunisation (UCI) by 1990.

In Addis Ababa last week, the Organisation of African Unity (OAU) Summit conference adopted several resolutions supporting efforts to save Africa's children, including UCI by the end of this decade.

Said El-Azem

Israeli officers admit the West Bank is a liability

By Milan J. Kubick

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM — Israel's generals are best known for their professionalism: They fight, they win, they keep quiet in public. But a group of retired generals has recently shaken up the old order by calling for peace with the Palestinians living in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip. "We want to tell our people that peace is a major security asset, that peace is worth territory and more peace is worth more territory," said retired Maj. Gen. Yosef Geva, one of the leaders of the Council for Peace and Security, a two-month-old group that includes 32 reserve major generals and more than 100 reserve brigadier generals — almost half of Israel's retired top brass.

The ex-generals reject the government's view that the occupied territories are needed to shore up Israeli security. Instead, they argue, the territories are now a liability. Says ex-Maj. Gen. Ori Orr, "Our main strategic problem is that the occupied Palestinians — and there will be 2 million of them in a few years' time — don't want to be ruled by us." Orr, who led the Israeli Army's withdrawal from Beirut in 1985, warns that "if we continue the occupation, the Arab countries will start another war against us in 10 years. But regardless of what the Arabs do, the task of controlling the territories will be so taxing and distracting that we won't be able to focus on our other more serious problems. We tend to forget that we're just a small Third World country in the process of development. If we put too much pressure on the 3.5 million Israeli Jews, our democratic system will collapse."

In Israeli military circles Orr's views are shared, in varying degree, by many senior officers on active duty. According to former Brig. Gen. Ephraim Sneh, former administrator of the West Bank, "Most senior officers, from [chief of staff Dan] Shomron on down, would prefer partial withdrawal from a demilitarised West Bank to [Prime Minister Yitzhak] Shamir's 'Greater Israel.' It's a matter of hard-nosed security analysis... Three AWACS [intelligence planes] would give us a better early warning than our position on West Bank mountains." He is not impressed by the right-wingers' argument that giving up the territories would put Israeli cities in range of Katyusha rockets. "The range is the same both ways," says Sneh, "and we could punish West Bank towns much worse than the other way around."

Warning to politicians: Almost as notable as the ex-general's statements is the political context in which they were made: Israel is preparing for elections in November, and the occupied territories will be a central issue. "For the first time in decades, we'll be really deciding about Israel's future," Orr said last week, much of the military establishment is exasperated with Israeli politicians and their poor record at peacemaking. "The politicians have been acting as if the IDF could solve all the problems of Israel," says Zeev Schiff, the country's foremost military commentator. "Now the ex-generals are publicly warning them, 'Don't mislead yourselves. The problems are worse than you think, and you'll have to do your share.'" — Newsweek.

MAP dinner raises £50,000

LONDON — A charity dinner organised by Medical Aid for Palestinians (MAP) last month raised £50,000 which will be used to improve medical services for children in Lebanon and the occupied territories.

The £50 per head event, staged at London's Park Lane Hotel, attracted over four hundred guests from many walks of life, including bankers, journalists, members of parliament and trade unionists. Amongst those present were Dr. Fathi Arafat, chairman of the Palestine Red Crescent Society, and Dr. Pauline Cutting and nurse Susan Wighton, renowned for their work in the Beirut refugee camps. During the recent campaign over £20,000 was raised from ticket sales, while the balance came from donations and from the proceeds of an auction which followed the dinner.

The main speaker was David Mellor, Minister of State at the Foreign Office, who was acclaimed during a tour of the occupied territories earlier this year for his outspoken criticism of Israeli policies. The situation in the West Bank and Gaza was "intolerable," he said at the dinner, adding, "I shall certainly not stop speaking out about it." While noting that the event was non-political, Mellor said that it was hard to avoid political comment. An improvement in the Palestinians' situation, he said, would require a change in the obduracy and brutality of at least one faction in the Israeli government, and also a change in some of the attitudes of the Arab World. — Council for the Advancement of Arab-British Understanding.

Maksoud: Arab summit enhanced peace chances

WASHINGTON (USIA) — A spokesman for the Arab League has renewed the call for an international conference under United Nations auspices to bring peace to the Middle East but did not rule out United States' proposals to achieve that goal.

"We should study and assess it (the U.S. peace plan) in light of our own national interests and security," Clovis Maksoud, the league's ambassador to the United Nations, said at a Washington press conference Friday. He said the question of peace proposals was always open to discussion.

Maksoud, who was joined by Algerian Ambassador to the United States Mohammad Sahnoun, told reporters that lessening of tensions between the United States and the Soviet Union "is a welcome development for us."

Improved relations between the superpowers "expedite" the possibility of an international peace conference coming about, Maksoud said. "We think the United States, as a pivotal power in the world should function through the U.N. Security Council — especially its five permanent members — to bring about peace," he said.

Both Maksoud and Sahnoun described the recently concluded Arab summit meeting in Algeria as a "success." The summit, "enhances prospects for peace in the Middle East and for a more united position of the Arab World," Sahnoun said.

Maksoud said the summit resolution supporting the Palestinian uprising in the Israeli-occupied territories was "a good one." Asked whether the league would increase its support of the

Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO), Maksoud replied affirmatively but did not specify by how much.

"Our financial support of the PLO has been a constant," he said. "The uprising in the occupied territories is a new factor and has heightened the need for continued support."

"In a way," he said, "the summit resolution was more or less a political expression of the Palestinians' non-violent resistance to the occupation and their attempts to salvage peace through the United Nations."

U.S.: No comment

State Department spokeswoman Phyllis Oakley had no comment Friday when asked about the communiqué issued at the Arab summit conference in Algiers, but she pointed out that "our initiative to start negotiations for a comprehensive Middle East peace is the focus of current discussion in the area and with other countries. The secretary was just in the region, and the parties encouraged us to continue our efforts, which we certainly will do."

Noting that Secretary Shultz has called the current status quo in the Middle East a "dead end street," Oakley emphasised that "the United States has put forward a plan to bring about negotiations based on U.N. Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338, including the exchange of territory for peace."

"This is not idle talk or speculation. It is the only realistic and workable plan on the table which can lead to peace. We intend to persevere," she said.

Reagan notifies Congress of F-18 sales to Kuwait

WASHINGTON (Agencies) — The Reagan administration notified Congress Friday of a planned sale to Kuwait of 40 F-18 aircraft in the first sale of the U.S. navy's newest fighter-bomber to an Arab state, a White House official said.

The official said the administration sent Congress an informal notification of the \$680-million sale. It will be followed in 20 days by a formal notice that the sale will proceed within 30 days unless Congress votes to "kill it."

The Reagan administration has been consulting with key legislators since the proposed sale was confirmed by the State Department last month in an apparent effort to dilute expected opposition to the sale.

Pro-Israeli legislators in Congress traditionally oppose arms

sales to Arab states. But opposition to the sale of 40 F-18s was likely to focus on the fact the advanced planes have never before been sold to a non-Western state.

The White House official, who asked not to be identified, declined to give any further details of the sale except to confirm the number of planes involved.

The informal notification, unlike the official 30-day notice, is classified and is not released to reporters.

State Department spokesmen said last month that the administration favoured the sale of advanced jets to Kuwait but had not decided whether to ask Congress to approve the transfer of F-18s, or less powerful F-16s or F-15s.

Arab papers urge action not words after summit

BAHRAIN (R) — Arab newspapers Saturday called for action not words following the Arab summit in Algiers which pledged total support for the Palestinian uprising in the occupied territories.

"The everlasting question which persists after Arab summits remains. How will such decisions be translated into action and what are the guarantees for Arab commitment to them?" asked an editorial in the Sharjah newspaper Al Khaleej.

"The question is whether the summit resolutions, especially those dealing with the U.S. and Arab conflict with Israel, will be put into practice or remain confined to words," said the daily.

The summit, the best attended in more than a decade, ended Thursday with a communiqué broadly condemning U.S. policy and calling for an independent Palestinian homeland and full Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) participation in an international peace conference.

The PLO will receive \$43 million a month to support the uprising in the Israeli-occupied territories, the summit agreed.

The Bahrain weekly Al Adwa said the suffering of the Palestinians in the occupied lands had woken the Arab World.

The summit resolutions would rescue Arabs from surrender and apathy, the newspaper said.

"We are waiting for the execution (of the resolutions). What we need is action not words... resolutions without action are meaningless," said Al Adwa.

The Kuwait newspaper Al Rai Al Aam said the time had come for the PLO to overcome its differences with some Arab states and between Palestinian sects.

"It is time to open a new page in relations and to concentrate its force to support the intifada (uprising)," said Al Rai Al Aam.

In Cairo, newspapers published without comment results of the summit but one accused Algerian President Chadli Benjedid of "political adolescence and distaste."

The government-owned weekly Akhbar Al Yom said Algeria did its best to obstruct efforts by other Arab states to readmit Egypt into the Arab League.

The final summit communiqué failed to mention the possibility of Egypt's readmission.

"The Algerian leadership could only be described as distasteful, politically adolescent and lacking in elementary principles of brotherly relations," said Al Yom.

MIDDLE EAST NEWS IN BRIEF

Saudi prince off to Britain, Ireland

JEDDAH (AP) — Crown Prince Abdullah bin Abdul Aziz left Saturday for London for a three-day official visit at the invitation of British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher, the official Saudi Press Agency reported. It said the visit officially starts Monday. From London, the prince, who is also commander of the paramilitary National Guard, will fly to the Irish Republic for a visit at the invitation of Prime Minister Charles Haughey, the agency added. Thatcher visited Riyadh briefly in 1985 and King Fahd of Saudi Arabia paid a state visit to London last year.

Pope meets winners of peace prize

VATICAN CITY (AP) — Pope John Paul II Friday congratulated a Palestinian journalist and an Israeli politician, each winners of an Italian prize for efforts to further peace. The two winners, Hanna Siniora, editor of Al Fajr, and Victor Shemtov, an exponent of the Israeli United Workers' Party, had received their awards Thursday evening in a ceremony in Rome. The "Golden Dove for Peace" awards were made by a group called Archive for Disarmament. During the brief, private audience with the men, the Pope expressed his pleasure at the handshake the two winners exchanged during the awards ceremony, indicating it was a good sign for prospects for a negotiated peace in the Israeli-occupied territories, the Italian news agency AGI reported.

The Netherlands to end Gulf presence

THE HAGUE (AP) — The Netherlands is planning to withdraw its sole remaining mine hunter from the Gulf in the fall barring exceptional circumstances, Dutch Premier Ruud Lubbers said Friday. "We are planning to withdraw it on Nov. 1, and there must be exceptional circumstances if it is to remain there after that date," Lubbers told reporters in a reference to the mine hunter Urk, the only Dutch navy vessel currently deployed in the area. Lubbers' remark heralded the end of The Netherlands' naval presence in the Gulf, which by the time of the Urk's withdrawal will have lasted 12 months.

Denktash ready to meet Vassiliou

NICOSIA (R) — Turkish-Cypriot leader Rauf Denktash said Friday he was ready to meet Cyprus President George Vassiliou next month for talks on the future of the divided island. He told a news conference he would inform United Nations Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar that he was ready to meet Vassiliou after July 10 and before July 20. "This would be a meeting to get acquainted with each other and it would not have an agenda," he said. Denktash, president of the self-proclaimed Turkish republic of north Cyprus, said he wanted to hear Vassiliou's views. But he stressed that any meeting would be held between the two as leaders of the Greek-Cypriot and Turkish-Cypriot communities. Vassiliou had said that Denktash, whose republic is recognised only by Turkey, must accept him as president of Cyprus before any meeting. But he appeared to soften his stance in an interview with Reuters at the United Nations last week. Vassiliou said he wanted to talk to Denktash, whom he has not met.

Iranian boats attack W. German freighter

DUBAI (Agencies) — Iranian gunboats attacked a West German-owned cargo ship in the entrance to the Gulf Saturday killing one crewman and wounding three, shipping sources in Dubai and Bahrain said.

They said the 11,744-tonne West German-flag Dhaulagiri was attacked in the Strait of Hormuz at 2.15 p.m. (1015 GMT) on its way to Saudi Arabia.

The attack was Iran's first on shipping for more than two weeks.

Three other seamen were wounded aboard the Dhaulagiri in the ambush, executives told the AP in Bahrain.

The vessel was manned by a crew of five Germans and 14 Filipinos, the sources said. But they did not know the nationality of the casualties.

They said that a man with what sounded like a Filipino accent was heard frantically radioing for assistance.

"He was begging, almost crying, for helicopter assistance to remove the wounded," said one executive who monitored the radio call.

The sources said an Omani warship responded and questioned him for the tanker's position.

The vessel, owned by West Germany's Beilken Co., was heading for Damman from the United Arab Emirates port of Fujairah when it was raided, the sources told Reuters.

They said the vessel, escorted by an Omani warship, was proceeding to Dubai under its own power after the raid by at least two gunboats firing machineguns and rocket-propelled grenades.

The captain had said the ship was not set on fire and that no assistance was needed, the sources said.

The attack followed an Exocet missile raid by an Iraqi jet on a Singaporean tug in Iranian waters Thursday that killed two Filipino crew.

Baghdad said its jets also hit a large vessel off the Iranian coast Friday, but the report has not been confirmed.

The 2 a.m. (2300 GMT Friday) attack on the West German ship was the first by the Iranians in two weeks and the fifth since May 3, when the U.S. navy broadened its protective role in the Gulf to non-U.S. flag vessels.

As in the other four raids, the Iranians attacked in an area where there did not appear to be any U.S. warships on patrol.

'Hitchhiking' tankers

Tankers from nations not protected by the United States have clustered around the latest U.S. escorted convoy through the Gulf, American naval officers said Friday.

The officers said at least nine "hitchhiking" tankers were sailing in front, behind and beside what had started as a convoy of two U.S. warships protecting three Kuwaiti tankers.

"Philadelphia, PA" was painted on the back of two of the hitchhiking ships — an apparent effort to make any Iranian attackers believe they were under U.S. warship protection.

The details were given in a pool report from journalists on the USS Fabrian and distributed to news organisations by the Pentagon.

Tag-along tankers from other nations have become a regular feature of U.S. and European convoys in the Gulf, particularly since the revision of U.S. policy May 3 which now allows U.S. warships to intervene in attacks on non-U.S. ships.

Before the policy was revised the U.S. navy protected only 11 U.S.-flagged Kuwaiti tankers in the Gulf.

Arab suspect worked for Mossad, British court told

LONDON (R) — An Arab accused of storing weapons for the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) in his bathroom was secretly spying for Israel, the London high court heard Friday.

Research assistant Ismael Sowan was arrested last year by British anti-terrorist squad detectives after they found a cache of explosives, rifles and grenades in locked suitcases at his home in Hull, northern England.

The prosecution alleged Sowan was looking after them for PLO member Abdel Mustapha, suspected by police of being connected with the murder of cartoonist Naji Al Ali Al Adhami in London last year.

Sowan denied being a PLO member and said he was working

for the Israeli secrets service Mossad information about Mustapha's movements in Britain.

Prosecutor John Nutting said that when police checked Sowan's claim with the Israeli embassy in London they confirmed that he was in contact with them on occasions and had told them last summer he was storing the suitcases for Mustapha.

Defending lawyer David Cocks said 28-year-old Sowan, a Palestinian born in Jerusalem, "had been paid by the Israelis for a long time."

Sowan denied illegal possession of the explosives and arms, adding he had no idea what was in the suitcases when he agreed to store them at his home.

The trial was adjourned until Monday.

Israel tightens stranglehold on Arab media

By Dan Izenberg
The Associated Press

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM — The Israeli occupation authorities have arrested reporters, closed newspapers and choked off sources of news for foreign journalists as the battle to stop the six-month-old Palestinian uprising has extended to Palestinian journalists.

The Israeli authorities insist that journalists are jailed only for illegal acts. But Palestinians and others say the media are being punished for reporting the truth and "hurting Israel's image" overseas.

The army has arrested at least 30 Palestinian journalists since the uprising began Dec. 8, and put 20 of them in jail for up to six months without charges, according to Marty Rosenbluth of Al Haq, an Arab human-rights group based in the West Bank town of Ramallah.

"The authorities are trying to restrict any information going out," said Rosenbluth. "They are basically trying to block people from finding out what is happening here."

Before the uprising, the

occupation authorities sometimes briefly closed one of the four Palestinian newspapers in Arab Jerusalem on charges of violating military censorship.

In the past six months, officials ordered a six-month closure of the Palestine Press Service, which serves the foreign press, and totally shut down Al Awa, an affiliated weekly published in English and Arabic.

Left-wing Israeli media have been affected, too. Last February, the government revoked the printing licence of Derech Hanitzotz, a communist weekly run by Israeli Jews and printed alternately in Hebrew and Arabic.

In May, it charged four of the paper's editors with being members of the Democratic front for the Liberation of Palestine.

Hadas Lahav, a Derech Hanitzotz editor held recently for 12 days of police questioning, said the paper's closure and the charges against her colleagues were part of a campaign to silence coverage of the intifada.

"Since the uprising, our pap-

er gained a good reputation because it gave very precise information on the number of people killed," she said. "People endangered their lives to cover the news."

Lahav accused the government of arresting her colleagues on trumped-up charges to stop them from reporting.

Israeli officials have denied they are trying to muzzle the press.

Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir said recently: "Measures have not been taken against newspapers or journalists because of their professional activity but because of violations against Israel's laws."

He did not elaborate, and the army refused to explain why it is holding Arab journalists or how many are in jail.

Detention without trial

During a tour of the Ketziot prison in Israel's Nagah desert, foreign reporters met a half-dozen Palestinian journalists who had been detained without trial.

Qassem Ali, a free-lance reporter who worked part time

for the AP, said authorities accused him of being politically active.

"But I believe I am here because I am a journalist," said Ali, who had escorted foreign television crews and reporters through Gaza Strip refugee camps and arranged interviews.

One recently released detainee is Samaan Khouri, a reporter for the French news agency Agence France-Presse and former editor of the English-language edition of Al Fajr.

Khouri said authorities did not mind that reports of the uprising reached the Arab population. They were, however, worried about the help Palestinian journalists gave to the foreign press, he said.

"The role of the Palestinian press has been more of a bridge to the outside world than anything having to do with the intifada itself," said Khouri who served 4½ months in Ramle prison.

"That's why the Israelis closed down the Palestine Press Service and arrested journalists who have contacts with the foreign press," he said. "They

want to cut off these relations."

In covering the uprising, foreign journalists have often depended on Palestinian sources for the first news of violence and for understanding the Palestinian viewpoint.

Palestinians generally provided reports on what was happening long before the army did.

Khouri attributed his arrest in part to his membership on the executive committee of the Palestine Journalists' Union, which represents 160 Arab reporters.

The group's leader, Rajwan Abu Ayyash, was freed from jail a few days after Khouri was. Government officials said the release followed an appeal by the Israeli journalists' union.

Amnon Nadav, head of the Israeli union, said Jewish journalists have fought for the release of detained Palestinian reporters since the beginning of the uprising.

"We regard them as professional colleagues and view their detention as the beginning of a process that could affect us all," Nadav said.

Palestinians observe solidarity strike

(Continued from page 1)

held for up to six months without charge in so-called "administrative detention." The majority were taken into custody after the Dec. 8 start of the uprising.

Kuttab said the changes in the appeals process were ordered because the current system would be unable to handle the expected wave of appeals.

"Within the next two weeks, all detainees will have filed

appeals," Kuttab said. "This is going to impose a heavy burden on the system."

Under present rules, a three-member military committee hears appeals, then refers cases to the area commander for a final decision.

Israeli Foreign Minister Shimon Peres meanwhile dismissed the Algiers Arab summit resolution calling for creation of a Palestinian state and accused the Algiers summit of "childish talk" and "verbosity."

Peres, in an interview with

Israel Radio, said resolutions passed by the summit supporting the Palestinian uprising and demands for creation of a Palestinian state — would have no effect on Israel or the Middle East peace process. But cabinet minister-without-portfolio Ezer Weizman, a "dove" in Peres's Labour Party, said the summit's endorsement of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) as the key to Middle East peace strengthened his long-held view that Israel would eventually have to talk to the PLO.

No change in Shamir's position

(Continued from page 1)

meeting Thursday he felt Israel would eventually accept an international conference.

"My view is that Israel will finally accept the convening of the conference. We are very much convinced that there is no other way. The conflict has to be, must be, resolved," the Soviet foreign minister told reporters.

"If we are able to convene the conference, the start of that conference will make it possible for us to settle the problem of our relations with Israel," Shevardnadze added.

Shamir said he continued to reject the idea of an international conference on the Middle East, preferring instead direct negotiations between Israel and the Arab states.

"If there is a conflict, the only way to resolve conflict, to overcome this difficulty is to negotiate directly, face-to-face negotiations between Israel and the Arab countries. That is the best way to get a solution. Why these international gatherings?"

Shamir said he was ready to begin negotiations with Arab states immediately, without waiting for the Israeli or U.S. elections this autumn.

"I think we have some differences of views with Secretary Shultz, although I have a great respect for the secretary and I like him very much," Shamir said.

Maghreb states take first step

(Continued from page 1)

Members of the Moroccan and Tunisian delegation said the chiefs of state promised Qadhafi to study his proposal within the framework of the special commission. No other immediate action was taken.

A merger of the Maghreb armed forces would create a huge army of 765,000 men, but the sources said such an integration "does not seem immediately feasible."

Algeria's armed forces are the largest in the region with a total of 350,000 men almost entirely equipped with Soviet bloc weapons. Libya also has a huge Soviet-supplied arsenal. But the Libyan armed forces comprise only 110,000 men, including auxiliaries.

Morocco, Tunisia and Mauritania have some 305,000 troops among them, equipped mostly with French and American-made weaponry.

Tunisia's Ibn Ali proposed a gradual and pragmatic integration of some of the region's political institutions, including the five parliaments.

Hassan suggested a cautious, step-by-step approach, beginning with small multinational corporations covering the five countries. Mauritania's Taya urged a closer relationship among the region's leaders.

Algeria's Benjedid suggested that the unity of the Maghreb nations should begin with limited economic integration.

The five leaders met for the first time since the end of colonial rule more than 25 years ago.

PLO said to get additional aid

(Continued from page 1)

The final communiqué as read by Klibi was not specific. It said: "The summit renewed its obligation to support the states confronting the Israeli enemy so as to enable them to boost their defence capabilities for liberating the occupied Arab lands and regaining usurped Arab rights."

No concrete figures on financial aid for the PLO or the uprising were given officially after the Arab leaders wound up their emergency summit. The summit's focal issue was support for the inhabitants of the West Bank and

Gaza Strip whose revolt against Israeli occupation is now in its seventh month.

A figure widely circulated unofficially was the \$118 million. There were other reports of hundreds of millions of dollars in pledged aid for the uprising. The aid was to be channelled through the PLO, which received renewed support for its representation of the Palestinian people, the reports said.

The PLO had sought \$1 million a day for food, compensation for strikers and other expenses.

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OPEC meets to discuss oil output

VIENNA (R) — The OPEC oil group met Saturday united in their desire for higher prices but divided on how to achieve them.

The bi-annual conference of the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) is seeking to hammer out an agreement to boost prices which Friday slipped to three-month lows on an over-supplied and gloomy New York market.

But they faced deep splits on whether to change the group's production ceiling for the rest of 1988, delegates said.

Other tricky issues on the agenda include persuading member Iraq to join the agreement, alleged cheating by some producers and the future of cooperation with oil-producing countries outside the group in controlling world oil flow.

High on Saturday's agenda is the bi-annual election of a conference president, a post Nigerian Oil Minister Rilwanu Lukman has held for four terms.

Lukman could be re-elected or replaced but there is no obvious candidate acceptable to all 13 members and, according to OPEC's statute, the vote must be unanimous, delegates said.

On Friday the price of crude oil for July delivery fell sharply by 34 cents a barrel to close at \$16.73 in New York. Its lowest since March 22 and well below OPEC's target price of \$18.

A wave of selling reflected "continued pessimism over the ability of OPEC to reach some type of agreement to support prices," said analyst Robert Murphy of Shearson Lehman Hutton Inc.

Early Saturday, Iraqi Oil Minister Issam Abdul Rahim Al Chalabi reiterated his nation's insistence on an OPEC oil quota equal to that of its war enemy Iran.

"Parity or nothing," he told reporters on arrival here.

"We shall try very hard to bring Iraq back into the fold but it's not going to be easy I can assure you," Lukman told Reuters in an interview Friday. Unregulated Iraqi output is swelling OPEC supply.

Nigeria, Venezuela and Indonesia—considered a moderate bloc within the group—talked late Friday night to try to find some common ground, particularly on output. Other bilateral talks took place Saturday before the full session.

"Some people have painted a very rosy picture (on demand). There are two extreme views and I believe we have to moderate them," said one senior delegate who asked not to be identified.

Under the present pact which expires at the end of June, 12 of the 13 members are assigned an output ceiling of 15.06 million barrels daily.

Lukman told Reuters current output including Iraq was 18.2 million.

Gulf states say forecasts of rising consumption by the West justify output of 18.7 million barrels from July to September, rising to 19 million for the rest of the year, delegates said.

But the majority, more cautiously, pegs demand lower and some price hawks even want a reduction.

Lukman, however, said in the interview OPEC could reach its target price if members adhered rigorously to their quotas, raising the possibility of rolling over the current agreement—often resorted to when there is stalemate over new output rules.

Oil industry analysts forecast a compromise roll-over.

"OPEC out ceilings are likely to remain effectively unchanged," said analyst Geoff Pyne of Phillips and Drew, while Merrill Lynch analyst Michael Rothman said, "the issue will likely be resolved by maintaining the status quo."

Saudi government offers bonds to banks

RIYADH (AP) — The Saudi Arabian Monetary Agency (SAMA) Saturday offered local banks 1.5 billion riyals (\$400 million) in bonds in the oil-rich kingdom's first move to borrow on its domestic market.

Bankers told the Associated Press that SAMA telexed the bond offer at 11:30 a.m. (0830 GMT), offering bonds with maturities of one to five years.

The interest rates on the bonds was not clear because SAMA has implemented a yield formula that would circumvent paying interest.

The kingdom observes Islamic Sharia law which forbids giving or taking interest.

"We have checked with other banks, and their calculations are varying from ours," said one senior banker, who spoke on condition of anonymity because of bank regulations.

"It depends on how you figure out the yield," he added.

SAMA said the yield on the "development bonds" would depend on "projects," but did not specify what those were.

The banks have been given cash-flow data that enables them to compute the yield of the bonds.

Bankers have until Monday to decide what the yield will be and how many bonds there will be, banking sources said.

Bank executives contacted in Riyadh concurred they want the bonds to be as good, if not better, than those of U.S. treasury bills.

The Saudi riyal is closely pegged to the dollar because oil exports are purchased with dollars.

The bond offering is part of an eventual \$30 billion-riyal (\$8 billion) placement.

The government decided to borrow to cover a deficit in last year's 141.2 billion-riyal (\$37.65 billion) budget.

When King Fahd announced the new budget in January, he said 30 billion riyals would be raised through a bond issue.

This is the first Saudi borrowing in more than 20 years, since the kingdom established itself as a leading oil exporter.

It was necessary because Saudi revenue plummeted because of an oil glut that started in the early 1980s, when oil prices collapsed from \$35 a barrel, to \$27.5, and as low as \$10 before reviving to the present \$17 level.

Although efforts have been made to diversify, oil income remains the basis of the kingdom's economy. With the lower oil income, the government maintained spending by drawing down reserves.

No official figures have been released on the reserves, once estimated as high as \$180 billion. But informed sources estimated they are now down to \$65 billion or less.

The placement with the banks was preceded by a quiet placement with the kingdom's two pension funds, the Civil Service Pension Fund, and the General Organisation for Social Insurance.

The exact amount taken by the two cash-rich funds was not clear. Bankers said the government wanted to quietly borrow from itself to begin with. The pension funds offered this opportunity.

OECD foresees no recession in U.S.

PARIS (R) — The threat of a U.S. recession after last October's stock market crash has faded, the OECD said Friday.

The 24-nation Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) said the effects of the crash are unlikely to go beyond the small slowdown the U.S. economy has already suffered.

"Consumer and investor confidence appear to have recovered, the index of leading indicators has recently pointed to expansion and, on the whole, the growth momentum of the economy now outweighs any recessionary influences," the 24-nation think tank said in its semi-annual outlook for the American economy.

As a result, the OECD said it now expects the U.S. economy to grow by 2.75 per cent this year instead of the 2.5 per cent rate it forecast in its December outlook report.

For 1989, the OECD said it now expects the U.S. economy

will expand by 2.5 per cent instead of 1.75 per cent.

Rising exports will boost the U.S. economy, it said. "With U.S. goods now very competitive on world markets, real net exports may contribute about 3/4 per cent a year to GNP growth," it added.

Gross national product (GNP) measures the value of all goods and services produced in a nation.

Strong economic growth should keep the U.S. unemployment rate down at around 5.5 per cent this year and next, but the OECD said that, with the rate that low, companies may start raising wages to attract employees.

"Based on past experience, this rate could be expected to generate an increase in wage inflation," the OECD said.

But it expects the U.S. inflation to drop by 1/4 of a percentage point to 3 3/4 per cent this year but then rise to around 4 1/4 per cent in 1989.

Strong growth may mean companies have to borrow more to build new plants and buy new equipment. With the U.S. government also running a big budget deficit, that may mean Americans have to continue borrowing abroad.

And that, the OECD said, could mean more pressure on the dollar.

The OECD also predicted that the current account gap—the balance on external trade in goods and services—would fall by only about \$10 billion this year to \$150 billion.

In 1989, the gap would narrow to \$132 billion. But without further economic measures the improvement would halt.

In December, the agency had seen the deficit dropping to \$134 billion and \$105 billion respectively this year and next.

The outlook comes just weeks after an individual OECD survey of the U.S. economy also gave a fairly clean bill of health. But its warning that the lack of improvement in America's imbalances risked bringing the dollar tumbling again on currency markets was repeated Friday.

"If domestic demand were to grow more strongly than projected, external adjustment could be perceived as too slow, and the dollar could come under pressure," it said.

In Washington, the govern-

ment said that U.S. businesses are planning record spending on new plant and equipment this year.

Analysts said the new projection shows that businesses were feeling increasingly confident about the direction of the economy and intended to expand to meet expected demand.

"The increase in capital spending clearly should mean more jobs for Americans," AFL-CIO chief economist Rudy Oswald told Reuters.

The Commerce Department said businesses planned to raise capital spending by a very strong 11.9 per cent during 1988.

Earlier this year, the department had projected an eight per cent boost in such spending.

The increase would be the largest since 1984 when spending rose 16.4 per cent, the department said.

The Commerce Department said businesses planned to spend a \$435 billion this year on new plant and equipment. The amount, after adjustment for inflation, would be a record, the department said.

The current record of \$393 billion was set in 1985. Jerry Jasinski, chief economist for the National Association of Manufacturers, said the latest figures were particularly encouraging because the projected spending increases were not confined to exporting firms.

Ministry weighs giving protection to industries

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Ministry of Industry, Trade and Supply will shortly offer protection to some Jordanian products for a trial period to help manufacturers improve the quality of their products and stimulate the national economy, Industry Minister Hamdi Tabbaa was quoted as saying in an interview published Saturday.

Tabbaa said that the ministry is not in a hurry to grant such protection which will be restricted to a number of industries and for a limited time.

Each case will be studied separately; and the ministry will see whether a protectionist policy or "customs restrictions" would be a better tool for achieving the desired aim, Tabbaa noted.

He said industries which enjoy protection would be placed under strict government supervision to ensure that they are producing good quality and competitive products that can satisfy the local and export markets.

Tabbaa added that "customs protection," which entails imposing higher customs duty on imported goods serves as an incentive for local industries to improve quality and compete with imported products.

In his statement, published in the latest edition of the Gazette of the Association of Banks in Jordan, the minister said that Jordan's commercial sector has been adversely affected by previously concluded bilateral trade deals with other countries and by some protectionism from other nations. The minister said the

sector is now going through a stage of re-organisation.

The minister said that the government is now giving increased attention to the trade sector and the "trade debt" which requires merchants to offer the sale of products on credit.

This is a heavy burden on merchants who should get assistance from banks and financial institutions, the minister said.

Tabbaa said that a new law will be announced shortly entrusting the government with ensuring basic commodities for the public and leaving trade in other goods to the private sector.

AMMAN FINANCIAL MARKET

Activity on the Amman Financial Market for June 11, 1988.

	Number	Volume	Contracts
Regular market:	217578	JD 192875	266
Top two companies:			
Dar Al Shaab Press, Printing and Publishing	98285	JD 47810	74
Arab Aluminium Manufacturing	23350	JD 39375	43
Parallel market:	—	—	—
Development bonds:	—	—	—
Treasury bills & bonds:	—	—	—
Other debentures:	—	—	—

Weekly Amman Financial Market trading

AMMAN (J.T.) — The following table summarises trading activities at the Amman Financial Market during the week starting Saturday, June 4, '88 and ending Wednesday June 8, '88. (Figures in Jordanian dinars).

Name of company	Number of shares	Volume of trade	Opening price	Closing price	Par value
Banking and financial institutions					
Industrial Development Bank	5500	8291	1.420	1.500	1.000
Petra Bank	9500	18435	1.970	1.940	1.000
Jordan Islamic Bank	11376	19028	1.660	1.750	1.000
Jordan Kuwait Bank	8753	12976	1.480	1.460	1.000
Jordan Gulf Bank	13131	15760	1.200	1.200	1.000
Housing Bank	200	347	1.720	1.740	1.000
Arab Jordan Investment Bank	2500	5250	2.100	2.100	1.000
Cairo Amman Bank	—	—	—	—	5.000
Bank of Jordan	392	5997	15.200	15.400	5.000
Arab Bank	1090	124286	114.000	114.250	10.000
Jordan National Bank	2048	5193	2.510	2.540	1.000
Jordan Finance House for Development	14960	14037	1.000	0.900	1.000
Jordan Investment and Finance Corporation	9750	17007	1.990	2.000	1.000
Finance and Credit Corporation	203700	111264	0.530	0.550	1.000
National Financial Investments	1500	2700	1.800	1.800	1.000
National Portfolio Securities	40153	28309	0.710	0.720	1.000
Arab Finance Corporation (Jordan)	100	138	1.380	1.380	1.000
Jordan Securities Corporation	4564	3462	0.760	0.760	1.000
Real Estate Financing Corporation	620	9880	14.500	15.950	2.000
Al Mashrek Exchange	—	—	—	—	10.000
Insurance and reinsurance					
Jordan French Insurance	—	—	—	—	1.000
REFCO Life Insurance	—	—	—	—	1.000
Jordan Insurance	—	—	—	—	1.000
Arab Life and Accident Insurance	—	—	—	—	1.000
Yarmouk Insurance and Reinsurance	1900	2090	1.070	1.100	1.000
Holy Land Insurance	—	—	—	—	1.000
Philadelphia Insurance	2000	1700	0.900	0.850	1.000
Arab Union International Insurance	—	—	—	—	1.000
Jerusalem Insurance	—	—	—	—	1.000
Jordan-Gulf Insurance	—	—	—	—	1.000
General Insurance	—	—	—	—	10.000
Jordan Eagle Insurance	—	—	—	—	10.000
Middle East Insurance	—	—	—	—	1.000
Al-Jedhar Insurance	—	—	—	—	1.000
National Ahliya Insurance	—	—	—	—	1.000
Arab Belgian Insurance and Reinsurance	—	—	—	—	1.000
United Insurance	200	190	0.730	0.950	1.000
Services and industries					
General Investments	721	915	1.270	1.270	1.000
Imna for Investment and Financial Facilities	3250	1750	0.460	0.540	1.000
Darco for Housing and Investment	198231	89199	0.410	0.440	1.000
Real Estate Investment (Aqareo)	3500	1355	0.400	0.410	1.000
Jordan Gulf Real Estate Investment	2350	699	0.290	0.290	1.000
Jordan Leasing Corporation	63	44	0.670	0.700	1.000
Petra Enterprises and Leasing Equipments	76350	13723	0.680	0.680	1.000
Equipment Leasing & Maintenance/Tajecoo	3000	855	0.790	0.790	1.000
International Contracting & Investment	2275	416	0.200	0.190	1.000
Jordanian Electric Power	10602	15823	1.470	1.500	1.000
Irbid District Electricity	—	—	—	—	1.000
Arab International Hotels	—	—	—	—	1.000
Hotels and Tourism	—	—	—	—	1.000
Garage Owners Federation Office	—	—	—	—	1.000
Jordan National Shipping Lines	3553	3032	0.840	0.850	1.000
Jordan Press Foundation	1850	6463	3.400	3.400	1.000
Dar Al Shaab Press, Printing and Publishing	190115	84396	0.400	0.470	1.000
Jordan Dairy	10192	10411	1.000	1.030	1.000
Arab Pharmaceutical Manufacturing	5371	10626	1.980	1.970	1.000
Intermediate Petrochemical Industries	89660	115158	1.300	1.280	1.000
Jordan Phosphate Mines	1489	3497	2.320	2.360	1.000
Industrial, Commercial and Agricultural (Inra)	27245	34625	1.290	1.280	1.000
Arab Chemical Detergent Industries	633	2532	4.050	4.000	1.000
Jordan Kuwait for Agricultural Products	—	—	—	—	1.000
Aladdin Industries	25100	30880	1.180	1.230	1.000
Arab Aluminium Manufacturing	226188	381642	1.740	1.670	1.000
Jordan Worsted Mills	100	450	4.500	4.500	1.000
Jordan Ceramics	9944	10839	1.080	1.090	1.000
Chemical Industries	3451	5219	1.500	1.540	1.000
Jordan Industries and Match (JIMCO)	22845	14674	0.650	0.640	1.000
Dar Al Dawa for Development and Investment	1716	2569	1.500	1.500	1.000
National Steel Industries	37950	103279	2.730	2.700	1.000
Universal Chemical Industries	11951	18938	1.590	1.580	5.000
General Mining	—	—	—	—	1.000
Jordan Petroleum Refinery	6210	45211	7.290	7.320	1.000
Jordan Lime & Brick	112450	25855	0.230	0.240	1.000
National Industries	2050	790	0.400	0.400	1.000
Arab Paper Converting and Trading	1850	611	0.330	0.330	1.000
Jordan Wooden Industries (JWICO)	15265	17446	1.070	1.110	1.000
Livestock and Poultry	—	—	—	—	1.000
Jordan Pipes Manufacturing	3100	3623	1.160	1.160	1.000
Rafia Industrial for Plastic Bags	—	—	—	—	1.000
Jordan Paper and Cardboard	3154	9543	3.050	3.090	1.000
Jordan Rockwool Industries	23050	14394	0.630	0.630	1.000
Trans-Jordan Minerals Research	—	—	—	—	1.000
Jordan Himeh Mineral	200	160	0.790	0.800	1.000
Orient Dry Batteries Factory	—	—	—	—	1.000
Woolen Industries	—	—	—	—	1.000
Jordan Tanning	865	1715	1.950	2.000	5.000
Jordan Printing and Packaging	134	536	4.010	4.000	1.000
Jordan Tobacco and Cigarette	36	504	14.000	14.000	1.000
Mas Industries	—	—	—	—	1.000
Arab Center for Pharmaceuticals & Chemicals	—	—	—	—	1.000
National Cable & Wire Manufacturing	3475	3343	0.960	0.980	1.000
Jordan Spinning & Weaving	40665	31370	0.760	0.770	1.000
Jordan Sulpho Chemicals	34960	86193	2.690	2.690	1.000
Jordan Cement Factories	51566	58466	1.130	1.140	1.000
Jordan Glass Industries	27120	26774	0.980	0.980	1.000
Grand total	1,629,782	1,696,883			

SIAMESE KITTENS

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NEW MODERN FURNITURE FOR SALE

French parties face possible cliffhanger

PARIS (R) — France's political parties have wound up their election campaigns amid growing uncertainty that Sunday's general election will give President Francois Mitterrand the Socialist majority he needs in parliament.

Despite a flurry of last-minute appeals by Socialist leaders, pollsters said the outcome of the second round vote on June 12 was too close to call — with the Socialists either winning a narrow majority or falling just short.

Pollsters, banned from publishing opinion polls in the two weeks before an election, said forecasts had been thrown into disarray by a record 34-per-cent abstention rate at the June 5 first round poll, in which the Socialists failed to achieve their expected landslide.

Showing increasing signs of nervousness, the Socialists launched a series of eleventh-hour calls for support from their sympathisers before the deadline for political campaigning expired at midnight Friday.

"Today there is a risk that the

right will return to power," warned Socialist Prime Minister Michel Rocard. "Last Sunday was a day for family communions, next Sunday people will have to vote" he added.

"It is arithmetically possible that on Sunday night we might lack a working majority in the national assembly," said Socialist ex-Prime Minister Laurent Fabius in a statement.

Mitterrand, defying television caricaturists who have nicknamed him "god" because of his aloof detachment from the campaign, appeared Thursday on prime time television to call for a majority — his second such plea in two days.

Until recently the right glumly expected to lose their six-seat majority in the 577-member

national assembly, but their courage returned when they saw signs of alarm in the left-wing camp.

"The Socialists are panicking. Having tried to make the country believe that they were guaranteed victory, they are now on the defensive," said Jean-Marie Le Pen, leader of the ultra right National Front.

Former Prime Minister Jacques Chirac, founder of the neo-Gaullist Rally for the Republic (RPR) Party, predicted Mitterrand would be unable to govern without the support of the Communist Party.

Speaking on national television, Chirac called for a power-sharing arrangement between a centre-right parliament and the Socialist president, similar to the political "co-habitation" of the past.

7 Indian soldiers killed

COLOMBO (R) — Sri Lanka's main Tamil guerrilla group said seven Indian soldiers were killed and an army jeep destroyed by one of its landmines in the eastern province of Batticaloa.

The Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam said in a statement issued to Reuters Saturday that the soldiers were killed at Panichankerni Tuesday.

No one from the Indian High Commission was immediately available to comment.

The statement said over 150,000 Indian troops were operating in northern and eastern provinces, preparing for an extended occupation of areas where minority Tamils live.

India, which says it has 52,000 troops in Sri Lanka, withdrew some heavy equipment and about 400 soldiers last week in the first reduction of troop strength since they arrived last July to carry out an accord signed by India and Sri Lanka to end a rebellion by Tamil guerrillas for a separate state.

Nigeria seizes Italian ship

LAGOS, Nigeria (AP) — An Italian ship was seized Friday and its captain ordered to remove toxic waste secretly dumped in eastern Nigeria, the government announced, and some Italians and Nigerians have been arrested.

The vessel M.V. Piave was seized as it docked to discharge its cargo, said Yusufu Maman, press secretary to the chief of general staff. He gave no details on those arrested except to say the would be brought to court soon.

Maman told reporters the government viewed "with great concern the criminal act of importing the industrial waste into Nigerian territory."

He said the dumping of the materials was an organised campaign to embarrass Nigeria for leading a campaign to halt the dumping by developed countries of nuclear and other toxic wastes in Africa.

Maman said there had been five shipments of the waste since September of last year.

The Ministry of External Affairs had announced Thursday that it was recalling its ambassador from Italy to protest the dumping, and was asking Italy to recall its ambassador to Lagos.

U.S. bars Panama officials

WASHINGTON (R) — The United States has resumed its campaign to oust Panama's military ruler, General Manuel Antonio Noriega, by indefinitely barring entry to his closest government and military associates.

Administration officials acknowledged the action announced by President Reagan Friday was unlikely to produce quick results but said it was "another pressure point" against Noriega, who has been indicted on U.S. drug charges.

It was the first U.S. strategy aimed at ousting Noriega since secret U.S.-Panamanian talks on dropping the charges against him in exchange for his exit collapsed late last month.

One official said the new move was "a diplomatic tit-for-tat," recalling that U.S. embassy officials in Panama had lost their electricity in a dispute over bill payments and that the embassy had been harassed by Noriega supporters.

"I have determined that it is in the interests of the United States to restrict the entrance into the United States as immigrants or non-immigrants of certain persons who formulate or implement the policies of Manuel Antonio Noriega and (acting president) Manuel Solis Palma," Reagan said.

The two Panamanian leaders were "preventing the legitimate government of president Eric Arturo Delvalle from restoring order and democracy to that country," the statement said. Delvalle, whom the Reagan administration recognises as Panama's legitimate president, was ousted by Noriega February 26, one day after he tried to fire Noriega from his post as head of the Panama Defence Forces (PDF).

Noriega's handpicked successor was Solis Palma. In Panama, Solis Palma spokesman Jose Hernandez told Reuters the U.S. order was "just another example of abuse of power by the United States."

Contras appeal for American assistance

WASHINGTON (R) — Nicaragua rebel leader Adolfo Calero Friday warned that contra forces could be annihilated by Sandinista troops if Washington does not supply them with military aid.

The breakdown of truce talks in Managua Thursday left the U.S.-backed contras at a disadvantage, he said.

Renewed military aid "becomes more urgent now that the Sandinistas have so improved their military position and capabilities," Calero said in a news conference at the National Press Club.

Calero, a member of the Nicaraguan Resistance Directorate, said the aid would help, not harm, the peace effort. "It was military action that brought the Sandinistas to the negotiating table," he said.

Talks aimed at achieving a peaceful solution to Nicaragua's seven-year-old civil war ended without an agreement. No new

meetings have been agreed upon.

Both sides agreed to continue respecting a ceasefire in effect since April 1 unless attacked. But General Humberto Ortega, Nicaragua's chief delegate at the truce talks, said in Managua Thursday that if the rebels did not agree to new meetings the war could continue.

"If peace cannot be obtained at the negotiating table it will be much quicker to achieve it on the battlefield," Ortega said.

The talks were the fourth round of top-level negotiations in Managua since the signing of a preliminary peace accord at the southern border post of Sapoa in March.

The rebel leader said the contras would not return to the negotiating table unless the Sandinistas "put something up front."

He said the downpayment to new talks could be the release of Nicaragua's at least 2,000 political prisoners or unrestricted freedom of the press.

But in its latest proposal the Sandinistas offered to execute the reforms through a "national dialogue" between the government, contra representatives and opposition parties, before any of the rebels began disarming.

Jail break-in foiled in Manila

MANILA (AP) — Former soldiers loyal to deposed President Ferdinand Marcos ransacked a military armoury Saturday but were stopped before they could free comrades jailed for alleged coup attempts, the military said.

An estimated 20 raiders fled with 24 M-16 rifles from the armoury when guards fired at them as they tried to free some of the 160 people, mostly soldiers, detained at suburban camp Crame, said Major-General Ramon Montano, chief of the Philippine Constabulary.

He said his troops prepared for the assault after receiving intelligence reports that "Marcos loyalists" would try to rescue inmate Orlando Dulay, a former assemblyman close to the former president, and other detainees.

Dulay has been jailed for more than a year on charges he masterminded the killing of several followers of President Corason Aquino during her 1986 presidential election campaign.

Bogota cabinet reshuffled

BOGOTA, Colombia (AP) — Critics Friday said the naming of a new cabinet would not help to stem the wave of violence sweeping Colombia.

"Ministerial patchwork is not going to solve the grave crisis that the country is suffering," said the leader of the opposition Conservative Party, former President Misael Pastrana, in an interview with Bogota radio station RCN.

President Virgilio Barco has been under pressure even from his own Liberal Party to do something about the violence by left-wing guerrillas, right-wing death squads, drug traffickers and peasant protesters.

"A change in policies is needed more than a change of people," a leader of Barco's Liberal Party, Senator Alberto Santofimio, said in an interview with Bogota radio station Caracol. Santofimio is a member of the party's central committee.

Barco, whose four-year term ends Aug. 7, 1990, changed eight of his 13 cabinet members Thursday night.

In the last four months, right-wing death squads have massacred more than 100 peasants,

drug traffickers have threatened to plunge Colombia into a blood bath, and guerrillas have launched their longest sustained offensive ever in Colombia.

So far this year, leftist guerrillas have blown up the country's main oil pipeline 41 times, have kidnapped 20 mayors, attacked a dozen towns and destroyed bridges, electricity transmission towers and communications facilities.

Peasants demanding land and an investigation of right-wing death-squad activity have staged 80 protest marches since Barco became president Aug. 7, 1986.

Barco's Liberal Party began demanding presidential action after a two-time Conservative Party presidential candidate, Alvaro Gomez, was kidnapped May 29.

It is not certain who kidnapped Gomez or if he is still alive. Gomez is the publisher of the Bogota daily El Siglo and is the son of former President Laureano Gomez.

In his cabinet shakeup, Barco retained the ministers of the five most important cabinet posts, including minister of government Cesar Gaviria Trujillo.

Concert honours Mandela

LONDON (AP) — Pop music's biggest names will give a 10-hour rock concert Saturday honouring jailed black South African leader Nelson Mandela and kicking off a five-week anti-apartheid campaign in Britain.

The concert signals a resurgence of the campaign against South Africa's apartheid system of racial segregation.

The planned rockfest for 72,000 spectators at Wembley Stadium, which has drawn strong protest from Pretoria, launches a series of rallies and birthday celebrations in Britain leading up to Mandela's 70th birthday July 18.

Mandela, leader of the African National Congress, has served 25 years of a life sentence for plotting the violent overthrow of the South African government.

Modelled on the 1985 Live Aid music extravaganza for African famine relief, the concert will be broadcast live on television and radio in Britain by the British Broadcasting Corporation (BBC) and beamed to some 60 countries, including the United States and the Soviet Union.

British conservatives have criticised the publicly funded BBC, claiming it is violating its statutory duty to be impartial by televising the concert.

The BBC has rejected the charge that it is implicitly backing the ANC, the black liberation group fighting to establish black rule in South Africa.

ANC President Oliver Tambo

is billed as the concert's guest of honour, but the BBC says it is not paying for broadcast rights, and views the concert purely as "an outstanding international musical event."

The anti-apartheid movement says half the proceeds from the 25-pound (948) tickets will go to children's charities in Southern Africa, and the rest will fund its activities in Britain.

"You can only say it is a political event because he (Mandela) is a political prisoner," the movement's president, Archbishop Trevor Huddleston, said at a news conference Friday.

South Africa said its London embassy complained to the BBC "at the highest level" for broadcasting the concert, and it also attacked a BBC documentary screened Wednesday night in which black South African children alleged they were tortured by police.

The lineup for the concert includes Whitney Houston, Sting, George Michael, Miriam Makeba, Hugh Masekela, Dire Straits, Eurythmics, Simple Minds, Roberta Flack, Natalie Cole, Phil Collins, the Bee Gees, Joe Cocker, the Fat Boys, and Maxi Priest.

On Sunday, a "freedom march" across Britain will begin in Glasgow, Scotland, winding up with a mass rally in London's Hyde Park July 17. The next day, prayers for Mandela will be held in Saint James's Church, Piccadilly.

Chemicals blamed for Soviet train blast

MOSCOW (R) — Mishandled chemicals apparently caused the Soviet freight train explosion which killed nearly 100 people, the Communist Party daily Pravda said on Saturday.

It was too early to draw final conclusions about the accident last Saturday when the train packed with explosives blew up on entering the station at Arzamas, 400 kilometres east of Moscow, Pravda said.

But already investigators had discovered that railway staff were not aware of exactly what they were carrying and that in some wagons, chemicals which should have been carried separately were loaded together.

Pravda named four inflammable chemicals on board the train as ammoniac, tritryl, hexogene and octogene.

Earlier this week, it reported that criminal proceedings had been initiated in connection with the explosion, which sent more than 200 people to hospital with injuries and made 2,000 homeless.

S. Korean students attack key government building

SEOUL (AP) — Radical students hurling firebombs attacked a key government building Saturday and student leaders vowed to stage another march to North Korea after police blocked a first attempt.

Police said 26 students forced their way past guards at a back gate of the combined central government building and threw at least 10 firebombs at the complex in the centre of Seoul.

Nobody was injured in the attack, in which windows were smashed and a police guard post and a waiting room blackened by flames and smoke. Guards overpowered 18 of the attackers, police said.

The building, across the street from the U.S. embassy, houses the prime minister's office, the foreign ministry and other major government departments.

The attack came a day after riot police blocked thousands of radical students from mounting a march to the North Korean border for talks on reunifying the divided Korean peninsula.

Students hurled firebombs and wielded clubs but failed to break through the ranks of 60,000 riot police and reach the border truce site Friday at Panmunjon. More than 800 students were arrested, and more than 100 police and students injured, police said Saturday.

Riot police remained on alert Saturday and troops guarded key government buildings and U.S. diplomatic offices.

Radical leaders at a rally Saturday at Yonsei University in the west of Seoul vowed to mount another march Aug. 15 to the border and said they would not abandon the reunification drive.

"Our struggle has ignited the mind of the people who want reunification of our land," one leader said in a speech.

Some 2,000 students applauded the speakers and shouted slogans. But the students' mood was subdued and thousands of others who had gathered at the campus for the march Friday had left by Saturday morning.

WORLD NEWS BRIEFS

Italy faces great AIDS threat

ROME (AP) — Italy could be facing Europe's greatest AIDS threat because the disease is unusually heavily concentrated among the nation's intravenous drug users, and sharing contaminated needles is one of the most effective means of transmission, experts said Friday. Researchers attending the four-day-long international drug abuse epidemiology conference in Rome said that drug abusers account for 64 per cent of the 1,411 cases of AIDS reported in Italy through the end of 1987. Donato Greco, an official with the Istituto Superiore di Sanita in Rome, said the percentage is the highest of any country in the world.

Pluto's atmosphere sighted

MOUNTAIN VIEW, California (AP) — Scientists flying over the southern Pacific ocean directly observed the atmosphere of Pluto for the first time, the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) has announced. While scientists previously had strong indirect evidence for the existence of an atmosphere on the solar system's ninth planet, the astronomers who viewed Pluto from a telescope aboard NASA's Kuiper Airborne Observatory Thursday got the first direct look at it, said space agency spokeswoman Diane Stanley. The observations show that Pluto is surrounded by what appears to be a substantial atmosphere, said J. Kelly Beatty, senior editor for Sky and Telescope magazine, reporting in Friday's edition of the Boston Globe. Beatty, who rode aboard the NASA aircraft, filed his report from Pago Pago in American Samoa. The discovery of a significant atmosphere could end years of debate over the extent of the atmosphere of Pluto, which averages more than six billion kilometres from the sun in its orbit, Beatty said.

'S. Africa nuclear programme must stop'

UNITED NATIONS (R) — History will never forgive this generation if South Africa's "nuclear ambition" is not stopped in time, Kenyan Foreign Minister Robert Ouko told a special General Assembly session on disarmament on Friday. "Nuclear armaments must not be allowed to feed and defend apartheid, which the rest of the world has vowed to destroy," he said. Ouko said it was a matter of grave concern that South Africa, which for decades has defied the United Nations, had "found room and comfort in pursuing a nuclear programme."

Former Italian president dies

ROME (AP) — Former President Giuseppe Saragat died early Saturday morning of complications from cardiovascular disease, Social Democrat Party officials reported. He was 89. Saragat, one of the founders of the Social Democrat Party, became the fifth president of the Italian republic in 1964. After he left office in 1971, he became president of the Social Democrats. In 1946, Saragat was president of the Constituent Assembly, which drafted the constitution for the new postwar republic. During World War II, Saragat was arrested for anti-fascist activity, handed over to the Germans and imprisoned. He escaped, was recaptured and escaped a second time together with Sandro Petrucci, who also later became president. A funeral was scheduled for Monday.

Eight Thais killed in ambush

BANGKOK (R) — Thai Muslim guerrillas killed eight police and local defence officials in an ambush near the border with Malaysia, police said Saturday. They said members of the separatist Pattani United Liberation Organisation attacked a vehicle carrying the officials in southern Thailand Friday. The guerrillas have been fighting for more than a decade for an autonomous Muslim state in the south.

Postman hides letters to avoid dismissal

NEWCASTLE-UPON-TYNE, England (R) — Hundreds of letters went undelivered in England, some for seven years, because semi-literate postman could not read some addresses. His secret was discovered only when a mail tumbled out of his locker during a routine clear-out at the sorting office, post-office officials said Thursday.

The postman, who had been hired on the recommendation of another member of staff, feared he would lose his job if he admitted that he had only limited reading ability. Newcastle-Upon-Tyne's assistant head postmaster, Jeremy Smith, said the man had nonetheless managed to deliver 100,000 letters a year over the last five years. He resigned in April and the post office decided not to prosecute him, although delaying the mail was a criminal offence. Smith said the hiring drill had been tightened and all the hidden letters, some from 1981, had now been delivered — many with notes of apology.

Harrods salesgirls sold sex with perfume

LONDON (R) — Harrods, the fashionable London department store, where Queen Elizabeth shops, said Friday it was suing a mass-circulation British newspaper for alleging some girls working at its perfume counters sold sex to customers. The tabloid daily Mirror published stories on its front page alleging that freelance salesgirls hired through agencies and not directly employed by Harrods, earned up to £1,000 (£1,200) a day in cash and gold jewellery to take part in champagne, sex and drugs parties.

Harrods has now concluded its internal investigation into the allegations. The store said in a statement. "Harrods has issued legal proceedings against the Mirror Group Newspapers 1986 Limited in respect of features which appeared in the June 8 and 9, 1988 editions," it added without giving further details. A spokesman for the Mirror said: "We stand by our story."

Greeks flock to Turkey on shopping sprees

ALEXANDROPOULIS, Greece (AP) — Greeks from this northern border region are taking advantage of better relations with Turkey to flock across the frontier in search of bargains. They travel in busloads on day-long shopping trips to the markets of Edirne 151 kilometres away or on weekend excursions to the Istanbul bazaar, 260 kilometres to the east. "Why not by things? I can get a sports shirt for 1,000 drachmas (\$7.5) in Constantinople or Adrianopolis while the same one costs 18,000 (\$134) in Alexandroupolis," said Heido Bonkis, a university student who often travels to Turkey. The Turkish cities are still known here by their medieval Greek names, dating from Byzantine Empire times.

Adrianopolis for Edirne and Constantinople for Istanbul. Greeks started making shopping trips to Turkey in 1984, when the visa requirement was lifted. Turks still pay \$100 for a visa to come to Greece. "Everyone in the region has a passport. They cross the border to buy clothing, produce, textiles and even automobile tires. On three-day weekends I think we lose about \$5 million," said Stavros Koutellis, a local newspaper publisher.

'Kiss and ride' zones tested

MUNICH (AP) — The Bavarian capital of Munich is testing a "kiss-and-ride" zone set up near a subway station to prevent couples kissing goodbye from causing traffic jams. A city official said Thursday. The head of Munich's public transport system, Dieter Lippert, said a "Test kiss-and-ride area has been set up near the Olympic stadium centre subway station," where men and women often drop off their partners to catch the subway to work. "The kissing especially held up road traffic on Lechweg Street and cars often backed up and caused accidents because of it," Lippert told AP in a telephone interview. Lippert, who heads the city's subway, bus and trams system, said that a side strip of road near the station is being clearly marked with signs indicating it is for "kiss-and-ride" passengers. "I don't think they'll turn into necking zones," Lippert said. "The drivers usually don't get that carried away."

Study say 'Star Wars' will fail in a real confrontation

By William Scally
Reuters

WASHINGTON — The "Star Wars" defence system probably will not work when put to the test in a real war, according to a major new study made public Tuesday.

The study by congress's Office of Technology Assessment (OTA) said the system's computer software would likely fail, and it questioned whether the land- and space-based anti-missile system could deal with Soviet countermeasures.

President Ronald Reagan has said "Star Wars", formally known as the Strategic Defence Initiative (SDI), could one day make nuclear missiles impotent and obsolete.

At a Moscow news conference last Wednesday he said: "The whole thing was my idea, to see if there could not be developed a defensive weapon that would make it virtually impossible for nuclear missiles to get through to their targets."

OTA, in a soberly worded re-

port that made no recommendations, took a pessimistic view of the outlook for a working Ballistic Missile Defence (BMD) system, saying there might always be "irresolvable questions" about the dependability of its software.

"In OTA's judgment, there would be significant probability (i.e., one large enough to take seriously) that the first (and presumably only) time the BMD system were used in a real war, it would suffer catastrophic failure," the report said.

It said the complexity of BMD software, changes in requirements and the novelty of the technology it had to control raised the possibility that the system might not pass even realistic peacetime tests.

"The relatively slow rate of improvement in software engineering technology makes it appear unlikely to OTA that the situation could be substantially alleviated in the foreseeable future," the report said.

The SDI office is working toward a phased deployment of the system, starting in the 1990s with

a ground-based system to knock out enemy missiles as they enter the atmosphere and space-based vehicles to hit and destroy missiles in flight.

In later phases, missiles would be intercepted in space or knocked out as they are launched.

The OTA study said the useful lifetime of the phase-one deployment was uncertain and the technologies needed for the later deployments were still more uncertain.

It said that given extraordinary fast rates of research, development and production, the first-phase system might be technically deployable in the 1995-2000 period.

Such a system might destroy anywhere from a few up to a "modest fraction" of Soviet warheads, but the system would have to be improved to meet more advanced Soviet offences, OTA said.

It said the useful life of the phase-one system might be a few years or less, depending on how quickly the Soviet Union could respond with countermeasures.